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BURMA, FINLAND SIGN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 23 Apr 82 pp 8, 4

[Text]

RANGOON, 22 April—The visiting delegation from Finland headed by Mr Lasse Lehtinen met with a Burmese delegation headed by Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance Dr Maung Shein in the meeting room of the Ministry of Planning & Finance, Office of the Ministers, at 9.30 am today and held talks to finalize co-ordination matters relating to bilateral economic co-operation.

After the talks, and in accordance with the economic co-operation programme between the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma and Finland, the Burma-Finland Credit Agreement and the Agreement on Mandalay Condensed Milk Plant Feasibility Study, were signed.

Dr Maung Shein, Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance, signed the agreements on behalf of the Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, and Mr Mauri Eggert, Ambassador, and Director of

Department of International Development Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, signed on behalf of the Government of Finland.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Planning & Finance U Aye Ko, Deputy Minister for Agriculture & Forests U Hlaing Myint, Deputy Minister for Industry 1 U Ba Chit, Deputy Minister for Industry 2 U Kyaw Za, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Ohn and responsible officials of the departments concerned.

The delegation from Finland on April 20 visited the Tat Kyi and Zawgyi Hydro Power Project sites near Lawksawk Township in the Shan State, where the projects are to be implemented with the assistance of Finland, and also Inle Lake region, and on April 21 visited the Mandalay Condensed Milk Plant Project site.

The delegation from Finland left Burma by air at 4 pm today.

CSO: 4220/576

KAMPUCHEA

DK ORGAN EDITORIAL ASSESSES COALITION TALKS

Gentilly KAMPUCHEA in French 29 Mar-4 Apr 82 pp 1,

[Editorial: "Flexible Coalition and Coalition Provided with a Minimum Political Program"]

[Text] The Khmer coalition government against the Vietnamese occupation has not yet been established because of the absence of an agreement, it would seem, on a choice of [one of the following] formulas:

--Son Sann, president of the FNLPK [National Front for the Liberation of the Khmer People], "is sticking to the formula for a flexible coalition" proposed in November 1981 by Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister Rajaratnam.

--According to the three-point agreement reached at the meeting held on 21 February 1982 in Beijing between Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Khieu Samphan, prime minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea (see our Bulletin No 126 of 8-14 March), the need first of all to have, among other things, a minimum political program is recognized.

In fact, what is the difference between the two formulas mentioned above?

"The flexible coalition" simply presupposes the appointment of a president (or chief of state), a prime minister, a deputy prime minister, and three ministers representing each of the three parties which maintain their respective identities and their own activities. We can clearly see in this the absence:

--of a mission (or an objective) for the government which should be explicitly defined;

--of principles (or rules) for the functioning of the government.

This lack of what is "essential" is already in itself the weak point of the coalition. Let us imagine that the prime minister and the minister of foreign affairs were to make incoherent or even contradictory statements. What credit could then be given to such a government?

More explicitly, let us suppose that the occupying enemy should make a proposal for negotiations on the partial withdrawal of its troops, on condition

of there being a truce in the fighting, and that there were two different responses on the part of the members of the coalition government, to wit:

- 1) The first response would accept the proposal, considering that the partial withdrawal of troops would be better than nothing, and that it would be the prelude to a total withdrawal when conditions permitted.
- 2) The second response would make the point that negotiations with the occupying enemy would be conceivable only in order to discuss a precise timetable for the total withdrawal of enemy troops.

In such a case, with which government (or member of the government) could one negotiate? And what would be the consequences for the Resistance forces, if not their disintegration? And who would profit from this state of things, if not the Vietnamese occupiers?

Another aspect which should be considered: none of the three parties has complete confidence in its partners, and vice versa. This is a further reason to define a basic agreement; it's the principle of equality (non-preponderance) and the principle of consensus. Subscribing to this minimum agreement would provide explicit evidence of sincerity toward the other partners.

Still another point is the principle of tripartite conduct of government. This is in no way comparable to a "three-wheeled vehicle," as some people are pleased to call it. The steering wheel is held by only one person, who is in charge of steering the vehicle. Only he should steer it toward an objective that has been defined in advance, following a route prepared together by all of the passengers and in a direction determined in advance by common agreement. To present an even clearer picture, let us compare this kind of formation of government to the crew of an aircraft. The members of the crew have nothing to argue about or to fight about, as some people fear, once the destination has been determined, the flight plan has been agreed on, and the responsibilities of each member of the crew have been defined. And the aircraft will operate as planned.

Without a flight plan, the pilot would not be able to obtain authorization to take off, because no one would know where he was going.

That is the role of the minimum political program in whose formulation the members of the three parties should participate, being careful to decide on the commonly accepted rules for its functioning.

Regarding the legal status of the state of Democratic Kampuchea, all concerned are now in agreement on recognizing its importance. It is the Government of Democratic Kampuchea which holds this legal status. The votes of 3 successive years in the UN General Assembly have amply proven this. Also, establishing a coalition government (or not doing so) without basing it on the legal status of Democratic Kampuchea would have no effect. If this were not the case, the Vietnamese occupiers would already have won.

Moreover, placing oneself in the legal framework of the state of Democratic Kampuchea does not imply submitting to its administrative structure. The latter could be improved or changed, as is done in all countries of the world.

We therefore see that the formula of a "flexible coalition" constitutes an incomplete and inoperative formula in the "struggle in all forms for the liberation of Cambodia from the Vietnamese aggressors"--a desire expressed in the Joint Singapore Declaration of 4 September 1981 between Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan.

The pursuit and development of this struggle require other conditions that are necessary. The minimum aspect of these conditions could be the three points of agreement expressed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Khieu Samphan following their meeting of 21 February in Beijing, which may be summarized succinctly as follows:

- 1) a minimum political program;
- 2) the legal framework of Democratic Kampuchea, a member of the United Nations;
- 3) the autonomy and freedom of the three parties, but the need to have jointly accepted rules for the functioning of the government.

These jointly accepted rules include:

- the tripartite principle;
- nonpreponderance of one party over the others;
- the principle of consensus--that is, important decisions must be by common agreement among the three parties.

Having reached this stage, it is useful to note that this agreement and these common points of view represent a retreat from the results obtained by the Ad Hoc Committee in the course of its nine meetings in Bangkok in September, October, and November 1981. (See our supplement in Bulletin No 116.) They constitute reasonable conditions while preserving the main point of the coalition, namely, to strengthen the resistance struggle so as to liberate Cambodia quickly from the Vietnamese occupation troops. These points of view are also in the common interest of all three parties in the coalition. To say that forming a coalition government is simply gilding the image of the "Khmer Rouge" is to turn one's back on the real problem and to pay little attention to the war against the Vietnamese occupation which, as experience has already shown, continues unceasingly.

The establishment of the coalition government is not an end in itself. Let everyone do his part, and everyone will be at the meeting place for this historic mission.

DELINKING SAID TO BE RESHAPING ECONOMY

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 27 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

Chairman of the Cotton Export Corporation (CEC) Nurul Hasan yesterday defended the de-linking of Pak rupee from the US dollar and said that floating the rupee on a basket of currencies was just a start to re-structure the economy.

The CEC chief who addressed the Karachi Rotary Club luncheon meeting yesterday was replying to questions of the members of the Club. He said the de-linking decision about the rupee and managing its float was primarily meant to strengthen the ability of economy to produce goods and services on competitive prices.

Nurul said that instead of having an artificial value for the rupee, the government has given an alternate dynamic system which according to him is a challenge for increasing output and promoting exports, controlling inflation and stabilising economy.

Speaking on his own subject - cotton Nurul drew attention to the fact that cotton growers in Pakistan were getting the highest rate for seed cotton all over the world. For this, the de-linking of rupee had helped a lot, he added.

Assistant Secretary General of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry Agha M. Ghoush also spoke on the subject of the de-linking of rupee and said that the Government should make efforts to stabilise the Pak rupee exchange rate with the in-

tervention currency of US dollar at or around Rs. 11.50 and not much beyond that.

Indeed the Pakistani importers and exporters, as well as their counterpart, in the world are creating the fall of the rupee as a measure of devaluation, to a larger or lesser extent in relation to major 'reserve' currencies of the world and are also "demanding concessions in the export prices". On the other hand, Agha said our importers are not able to force concessions from foreign exporters due partly to 'uncertainties' surrounding the fixation of our rates of exchange.

It is true Agha said that Pakistan's experience in the past as well as at present, has been that whenever devaluation of the Pak rupee became quite apparent, "we have either been hesitantly delaying the inevitable decision, or when the decision was eventually taken it was too large a rate. This has been historically unfortunate in 1972 in particular and the industrial sector is still suffering from the high debt-servicing burden".

Therefore, he said, the present resultant-devaluation of the rupee which is being managed as a float on a basket of currencies, should not be allowed to touch Rs. 12 as is generally feared in the business circles and this will take the 'free' or black market rate to Rs. 13.

CSO: 4220/565

UNITED STATES ENLARGES SCOPE OF IMPORTS FROM PAKISTAN

Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 10

[Text]

The United States has enlarged the scope of duty-free imports from Pakistan under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) to include over 2,850 items, informed sources told 'Dawn'.

The move has been taken by American officials to discount the impression that the United States was resorting to increased protectionism by curbing imports from developing countries.

The new list has been sent by US officials to the Pakistan Government with a specific note that it was not the policy of "protectionism" but "just the reverse" that the US was following.

The United States Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Ronald Spiers, recently described the US-Pakistan textiles agreement as the most liberal agreement Pakistan had with any Western nation. The accord is expected to increase the export of Pakistani textiles to America by about seven per cent.

According to sources, exports

from Pakistan to the United States are already on the increase and in the first six months of the current fiscal year — July to December 1981 — an increase of over 21 per cent was recorded over the corresponding period last year.

Figures show that from 80.5 million dollars in July-December 1980, the exports increased to 85.5 million dollars in July-December 1981.

Overall exports to the American region, however, registered a seven per cent decrease with exports to Mexico falling from 9.4 million dollars in 1980 to only 263,000 dollars up to December 1981.

Similarly, the export market in the Central American state of Bermuda was totally lost to Pakistani exporters in 1981, whereas in the previous year about 4.7 million dollars' worth of goods were exported.

These losses were largely balanced by increase in exports to the United States and Canada.

CSO: 4220/571

SHOORA MEMBERS SAY ELECTIONS TO BE SOONER THAN EXPECTED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 29 Apr 82 p 5

[Text]

The members of the Federal Council, Mr Zanurul Hassan Bhopali and Hafiz Mohammad Taqi, yesterday said that elections would be held in the country much before the expectations of the people.

Addressing a Press conference jointly, they said that the time was not far away when we will achieve the goal of establishment of a representative democratic government.

Mr Bhopali told the newsmen that the achievement of this goal to them was not possible by adopting the course of confrontation and hence they followed the path of peace and conciliation.

He said the Council of Islamic Ideology had submitted its report before the President of Pakistan and he hoped that his adjournment motion on the election date would come up for discussion along with the Council's report at a meeting of Majlis-i-Shoora.

Referring to the proceedings of the Shoora, Mr Bhopali said that at no stage any effort was made to influence the opinion of the Shoora members within and outside the House and thus the President kept his promise with which he had established the Shoora.

He said it was a unique fea-

ture of Parliamentary history that while recommending the Law of Ombudsman some 37 Shoora members proposed over 100 amendments to the draft law and after mutual consultation 24 of them were approved which proved that the Government was prepared to accept every constructive approach.

POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS

Mr Bhopali said that at the Shoora meeting the members not only made intense criticism but also put forth positive suggestions and asked about 400 questions relating to different departments and also moved 100 motions concerning the burning national issues.

He said that although a nominated institution, Majlis-i-Shoora, played a more effective and vigorous role than the past assemblies. However, it does not mean that a nominated institution could replace an elected body on permanent basis. The President and all the members of the Shoora consider it a transitory arrangement with the hope that it will provide a firm base for the establishment of a real Islamic order and democratic setup in the country.

CSO: 4220/570

PAKISTAN

REPORT ON 25 INDIAN DIVISIONS ON BORDER NOTED

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 6

[Text]

LONDON, April 28: Gordon Brook Shepherd in an article published in a recent issue of the Sunday Telegraph disclosed that no fewer than twentyfive of India's thirty Army divisions are massed on or 'behind her frontier with Pakistan and if they marched, they would be doing Russia's military job for her.

Mr. Shepherd quotes President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq who described Kremlin's various political plays towards him in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the very strong Russian pressures to hold talks with Babrak Karmal in Kabul which were firmly rejected.

"The first effort by the Russians was to have the border sealed from Pakistan's side, but President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq pointed out that 'you can shut a door from both sides and they had to admit they could not do it either'.

The article, based on an interview with the President which lasted over three hours, had left a lasting impression on the author of the President's person. The paper writes that even critics of the President's, who are definitely in a minority, admit that the President is totally incorruptible and genuinely modest as well as a deeply devout person.

Continuing, the author writes, "Under his leadership, there is no smell of the police state in the air of Pakistan and no repetition of that arbitrary and avengeful reign of terror which blackened the last phase of his predecessor.

He further writes that the President, despite an 18-hour workday, is an omnivorous reader.

CSO: 4220/570

STUDENT ATTACK ON NEWSPAPERS CALLED 'FASCIST' THREAT

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

THE Press in Pakistan has always had to work under pressure. Friday's attack on the offices of two leading Urdu dailies in Lahore has added a fearful dimension to the task of reporting and elucidating events of public interest. The newspaper offices were attacked by an organised gang of armed students who were protesting against the publication of a news item about the Nazim-i-Aala of Islami Jamiat-i-Tuloba trying to board a Peshawar-bound PIA aircraft from Lahore with a loaded pistol in his briefcase. The students, at least three hundred in number, went to the newspaper offices armed not with their version of the story but with pistols, daggers, sticks and iron rods. They went literally on a rampage. Besides extensive damage to property, eight workers in one newspaper office were hurt and a lady reporter was manhandled. This, as the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors has noted in its resolution, was unprecedented. Newspapers were never before subjected to an organised attack on such a scale though angry groups have occasionally used highhanded methods to register their protest against some news item or editorial comment. The nature of this attack and the

mentality that it betrays should be very carefully examined. It would not do merely to condemn the shameful incident and call upon the authorities to take action against elements responsible for the attack. The CPNE, the Standing Committee of which had an opportunity to visit the two ransacked offices, is justified in observing that "this dastardly attack is not merely an attack on two newspaper offices but is an attack on the freedom of Press and objective reporting of news events".

Besides the liberty of the Press to perform its functions without fear or favour, the issue directly involved here is that of violence. If small, organised groups can get away with intimidating individuals and institutions, the entire society should feel threatened. The armed students had apparently taken their cue from some guidebook of fascism. They have displayed a very dangerous symptom. A thorough diagnosis of the sickness that this incident reveals should be urgently made. One obvious remedy is to further strengthen what the misguided group had sought to attack: the liberty of the Press. The fascist tendencies that seemed to have motivated the attackers can best be countered

by a responsible and free Press. Such a Press is the necessary condition of a free society which has the strength to defend its rights and values. All those who feel committed to defending fundamental values and protecting our social equilibrium should join the Press in its struggle against dark forces of violence and disruption. We have commented on earlier occasions on the threat that violence poses to the norms of civilised behaviour. The attack on newspaper offices shows the danger signals to be very real.

Reported details of Friday's incident bear witness to the fact that the attack was premeditated. It is also significant that the law-enforcing agencies were caught napping. The attacking students had used threats before they acted; they left with threats meant for the editors of the two newspapers. Given the performance of the police in Lahore on Friday, the editors and working journalists would naturally feel highly vulnerable. Such a situation poses a challenge to the authorities whose responsibility it is to protect the lives and property of law-abiding citizens. How could bus-loads of rowdy students passing through busy thoroughfares escape the attention of the police even after they had landed on the scene and continued with their orgy of violence for half an hour or more? The attackers as would be

expected, have sought to justify their action by stating that the two newspapers in question had indulged in biased reporting and had ignored their version of the story. In a statement after the attack, the Jamiat Nazim-i-Aala has conceded that he had a pistol on his person but explained that it was a licensed weapon. He also accused the authorities of trying to implicate him in a case of attempted hijacking. Without going into the question of why a student leader should be travelling with a pistol in his briefcase, here is evidence that the story was not exactly the figment of a reporter's imagination. Why should it then generate such wild, though calculated, response? If some facts were missing or misconstrued, the simple remedy was to issue a clarification. This is a crucial matter and should be fully understood.

Newspapers claim no right to be partial in dealing with facts and events. They have the right to hold their opinions, but any person offended by distorted or insufficient reporting has his traditional right to demand a retraction or issue a rebuttal or a clarification. It is reported that the students had warned the newspapers before the publication of the news item. This, again, was a threat that no newspaper can be expected to submit to. The Press code of ethics,

though not institutionalised in Pakistan, is well established in this regard. Newspapers, as a matter of course, keep the record straight. Then there is also the legal remedy in case of defamation. The students involved in Friday's incident could have sent a delegation to talk things over with the editors concerned. In any case, the use of violence is inexcusable. Taking note of the extreme feeling of hurt in all sections of editors and journalists, the CPNE called for a protest strike by newspapers all over the country. The All-Pakistan Newspaper Society has endorsed the call. The strike is being observed today. This protest should be seen as a distress call for sanity in the face of a fascist threat to our civilised existence. It must also be seen as a firm resolve on the part of the newspapers not to submit to coercion and intimidation but to resist the practitioners of these methods with all their might. We firmly deplore the attack and join the call for action against elements who perpetrated or colluded in the commission of the crime. But in standing firm the Press needs the vocal support of that segment of opinion which knows what the stakes are. If the people's disapproval of violence against the Press is vigorously articulated, there will be a reasonable basis for hope that the incidents of Lahore will not be repeated.

STUDENTS STRONGLY PROTEST ACCUSATIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 6

[Text]

HYDERABAD, April 28: The students of Hyderabad have strongly protested against the "uncalled for" accusations against the Nazim-i-Aala, Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba, and "indiscriminate arrests" and convictions of Jamiat members.

A Press release issued by Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba, Pakistan (IJT) said that students boycotted classes in City College, Sind College of Commerce and Ghazi College in Hyderabad, and took out a procession against the "unjustified punishments" of Jamiat members.

The students also organised a big protest meeting against the "provocative incident" of Lahore involving the Jamiat chief.

Addressing the meeting, the General Secretary, Sind Jamiat Mr Ishaad Hussain Brohi, said that Government felt "perturbed about the ensuing visit of Nazim-i-Aala, IJT, and wanted to blackmail the Jamiat in

order to damage his reputation." He demanded that Government should "forthwith stop violence against students and arrest the journalist who had tried to make a mountain out of a molehill by scandalising an unimportant event."

The meeting adopted a resolution condemning the "false and yellow journalism and police violence and punishments just within 36 hours," and demanded that punishments given to the students should be revoked immediately "lest the biggest Islamic organisation of the students would play its role up to the hilt."

Through another resolution, the meeting called upon the managements of daily "Jang" and "Waqt" to "immediately dismiss the irresponsible journalists and tender an apology to Jamiat leaders and publish this apology on the first page of their respective dailies."

CSO : 4220/570

TEACHERS OF GOVERNMENT COLLEGES BOYCOTT CLASSES

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 14

[Text]

Classes remained suspended in all the 19 Government colleges of the city as a result of the boycott of Government college teachers to press for the acceptance of their demands.

The Government-cadre teachers posted at the nationalised colleges also stayed away from work.

There are 1,200 Government college-cadre teachers including 900 lecturers and 300 assistant professors and professors serving in a total of 60 colleges in the city — 19 Government colleges and 41 nationalised colleges.

In the nationalised colleges, classes remained partially suspended as teachers belonging to Government cadre did not take the classes.

The strikers held meetings to pass resolutions urging the authorities to accept their demands.

According to a random check, the strike was fully observed in all the five Government colleges visited, viz, D.J. College, Women's College (Frere Road), College of Commerce, Government College for Men (Nazimabad), and Government College for Wo-

men (Nazimabad).

However, Government-cadre teachers in the PECHS Girls College and the Karachi College for Women did not observe the strike, inquiries indicated. The Government Urdu College is under the Federal Government and is not affected.

While the Government-cadre college teachers were on a three-day strike, the college teachers of the nationalised cadre were engaged in a "mass-contact week" to mobilise public opinion in favour of their demands as resolved by the Executive Committee of the Pakistan College Teachers Association (Karachi Region) on April 19 to observe the "Mass-contact week".

A delegation of Pakistan College Teachers Association led by Mr. Maroon Rashid met the President of High Court Bar Association and apprised him of the problems of nationalised institutions and the demands of the teachers, says a Press release.

Mr. Wajehuddin, President of the Bar Association and Mr. Iqbal Raj, in a joint statement, extended their support and co-operation to the teachers.

CSO: 4220/568B

SAUDI INFORMATION MINISTER MEETS YAQUB

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 16

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 29: The Information Minister of Saudi Arabia, Dr. Mohammed Abdou Yamani, called on the Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, here today.

During the half an hour meeting, the two Ministers exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Both the ministers laid emphasis on the special ties existing between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

They underlined the commitment of the two countries to further the cause of Islam and promote unity among the Muslim countries for which mutual cooperation in the field of mass media is a vital ingredient. Both looked forward to enhanced co-operation in the field of information and information technology as a result of the current constructive talks being held between the Information Ministers of the two countries.

The Saudi Minister also stated that his Government was eagerly looking forward to the forthcoming visit of the Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan to Saudi Arabia. This visit, he said, will help further strengthen the close bonds of friendship and brotherly relations which so happily exist between the two countries.

Present on the occasion were the Additional Foreign Secretary, Syed Zafarul Islam and officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Information.

Dr. Muhammad Abdou Yamani went a short sight-seeing trip in the Federal Capital this afternoon. He visited Shakerparian Hill and the under-construction Faisal Mosque.

CSO: 4220/570

HUB DAM AND ITS IMPORTANCE FOR BALUCHISTAN DISCUSSED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 27 Apr 82 p 2

[Text]

It took almost a quarter of a century to complete the Hub Dam Project! Though the importance of the project was never underestimated, it was unduly delayed for unknown reasons. It is a project which was conceived as early as 1958. Its benefits were to accrue to two provinces, Baluchistan where it is actually situated, and Sind, particularly Karachi which is just in the vicinity of the Hub River. At that time the estimated cost of the project was no more than one seventh of the actual cost at which it has been completed. For seven years the project remained confined to papers and the actual work started in 1965 with the intention that it would be completed by 1968, that is, in three years' time. But not only the then government but also the governments which followed showed no interest in the project and it was left almost unattended. It seemed that the administration had actually shelved it. And, at the same time, all the Governments went on talking about the rapid

development of the province of Baluchistan for it was and still is the most backward region of the country. As a result of the delay, the cost went up from a mere Rs. 88.6 million to Rs. 860 million. This is actually the escalation in the monetary cost of the project, but the cost which the two provinces had to pay in terms of deprivation of the benefits which would have otherwise accrued to them, is something which no one cared to calculate. However, we feel happy over the completion of the project and wish that the mistakes of the past would not be repeated in letting the benefits flow to the areas for which the project is meant. The inauguration of Lasbela Canal by the Governor of Baluchistan, Lt-Gen Rahimuddin Khan the other day provides the hope that the work in this regard would be taken up at the speed needed for the purpose. The canal is expected to irrigate 22,000 acres of land including one thousand acres in the province of Sind.

Here we would like to

pose a question of principle: Why should the benefits of a resource of a particular province not first accrue to that province? Baluchistan has vast mineral resources. It is a fruit nursery which can be developed provided water is made available to it. It is this province which owns one of world's largest natural gas deposits but the benefits of this resource are being carried to the people of that province two decades after its discovery. It was the right of the people of Baluchistan to get the natural gas first, but they are the last to be benefited by that resource. In the case of water from the Hub Dam, it is first the right of the province which owns it before it should be passed on to other provinces. While steps are being taken to industrialise Baluchistan and powerful incentives are being provided to the prospective investors to go there, the basic infra-structure is still lacking, nay, in most of the cases, non-existent. It was on the assurance of the authorities that water and power would soon be provided to the industries to be set up in that province that the entrepreneurs started going there, as is

evident from the fast emerging industrial complex on the Hub Chawki. But the industries there are facing great hardships in procuring water and gas. Instead of gas, the industries are being fed on LPG which is not only costlier but also its supplies are irregular. What we want to stress here is that in the distribution of water from the Hub Dam Project, preference should be given to the people of Baluchistan. Once their requirements have been met, then and only then its water should come to Karachi.

We do admit the gravity of problems Karachites have been facing due to shortage of water. The project has the capacity to supply about 90 million gallons of water per day to this City which would meet the present shortfall. Yet we would plead that the needs of Baluchistan must precede the needs of Karachi or any other region of Sind. Such a strategy would go a long way in accelerating the pace of development in that province and bringing it to the level of the more developed regions of the country. It would thus add to the overall well-being of the people of this country.

PROPOSAL FOR TOURISM AUTHORITY DROPPED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 27 Apr 82 p 6

[Excerpt]

The Federal Minister for Tourism, Naz Mohammad Arbab, yesterday said that after examining the proposal for setting up a Tourism Authority, the Government has decided that the present system is capable of promoting tourism in the country.

Inaugurating the third convention of the Travel Agents Association of Pakistan at Hotel Intercontinental, he said that since tourism is a concurrent subject it is the policy of the Federal Government to refrain from interfering with the provinces.

Lauding the interest taken by TAAP in the establishment of Tourism Authority for coordinated planning and synchronized execution of policies, he said that the private sector has been associated in various committees formed for the coordinated promotion of tourism.

However the minister regretted that the TAAP Chairman has not participated in many of the meetings of these committees.

Naz Mohammad Arbab said that the Government is aware of the fact that the tourist industry plays an important role in building better relations with other countries besides being a source of foreign exchange earnings.

In view of this importance of the tourist industry, he said that the Government has earmarked credit line with IDBP for financing of low income group tourist accommodation. It is estimated that an investment to the tune of Re 3000.00 million is expected to be made during the Fifth Plan period ending in June 1983. Ad-

ditional 5500 rooms of all types of accommodation are expected to be raised during the same period, he added.

He said that the recommendations made by committees under the chairmanship of leading tour operators on "Marketing Strategy" and "Tourist Products of Pakistan" are under active consideration of the Government.

He urged TAAP to provide the figures of quantum of foreign business secured in the last two years, by the travel agents and tour operators, so that Ministry could make this as a basis of further strengthening for various concessions and incentives.

He said that the private sector should play its role more effectively to market tourist products of Pakistan.

REGISTRATION FEES

The Federal Minister for Tourism disclosed that the demand to waive off various registration fees was being actively considered in the Tourism Ministry.

He said that the demand to have tour operators included in the industrial investment schedule was also being processed by the Ministry and a letter had been sent to the association seeking essential information in this regard.

He assured the Ministry will extend all possible assistance to the travel trade conventions in Pakistan. He, however, made it clear that the Tourism Ministry cannot convert the casino building at Clifton into a convention hall since the same did not belong to the government.

CSO: 4220/565

FIRST OIL WELL IN BALUCHISTAN

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] ISLAMABAD, April 27--Federal Minister for Petroleum and National Resources Maj-Gen. (retd.) Rao Farman Ali Khan will inaugurate first oil well in Baluchistan on May 10.

This was stated by M. Masihuddin, acting Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources at talks held with energy experts delegation here today.

The delegation was told that British Petroleum Ltd. had carried out survey in different area of Baluchistan and the first well was drilled by them at a cost of 17 million dollars.

The discussions to further develop oil and gas resources in Pakistan were held in detail at a meeting between the visiting four-member team of international energy experts and the Pakistan authorities.

Maurice F. Strong, Chairman, International Energy Development Corporation and an expert of international repute led the visiting delegation while M. Masihuddin, acting Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources headed the Pakistani side at the talks.

The acting Secretary told the delegation that last year Pakistan had drilled nearly 30 oil wells and the number would be increased to 50 in the next five years. He pointed out that it was the policy of the government to make maximum production alongwith accelerating the tempo of oil exploration and in the light of this policy the attractive incentives had been provided to the oil companies in the field of exploration and drilling.

The meeting was informed that Pakistan has public as well as private sectors participation in oil exploration and Pakistani and foreign companies besides the state-owned Oil and Gas Development Corporation are functioning in the country.

Achievements and programmes of other foreign companies operating in Pakistan were also discussed during the meeting.

During the meeting the Chairman OGDC, M. H. Rizvi briefed the visiting team on Pakistan's accelerated efforts for exploring and developing oil potentials in the country, he informed the meeting that OGDC would lease out 10 structures to other companies for joint ventures while it would retain five structures for contract drilling in addition to four contracts for free area.

Gas sector

Referring to the subject of gas sector in Pakistan, the acting Secretary said that in view of the limited natural resources of Pakistan, the government was keen to make optimum utilization of gas resources. He explained the salient features of the available gas fields including Sui, Mari, Pirkoh, Dhodak, Meyal and Toot fields and added that the development of Pirkoh would be completed in two phases to meet the country's requirements.

The present supply position of gas in the country and the demand projection was also explained in depth by heads of various gas companies operating in Pakistan.

Concluding, the acting Secretary said that solution to our energy problem lay in the interfuel substitution in the short-term perspective while nuclear energy and hydel power could only provide permanent solution in the long-term perspective. However, he said that the government was keen to benefit from the expertise of the international energy experts and would welcome the suggestions made by them in this regard.

The delegation appreciated the achievements of Pakistan in the oil and gas development and assured all possible assistance in this connection.

The meeting was attended among others by Chairman, OGDC, Chairman, Pakistan Oil Fields Limited chiefs of gas companies and senior officials of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources.

CSO: 4220/565

AGREEMENT TO PREPARE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 27: A 20-year energy development programme for Pakistan will be prepared by the Geneva based International Energy Development Corporation (IEDC).

The need for preparing such a programme has been felt in order to maintain economic growth of the country at a high level. This growth level will require increasing amounts of energy. Maurice F. Strong, Chairman of the IEDC said here this evening.

The 20 year plan will have special emphasis on projects which will be included in the sixth five-year development plan scheduled to be launched on July 1, 1983.

MEMO SIGNED

Meanwhile, the Government of Pakistan and the IEDC today signed an agreement appointing the later as Principal Energy Adviser to the government.

The memorandum of understanding was signed this evening by Maurice F. Strong, and Dr. Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission. It provides that the corporation will also advise the government on energy related matters. It will assess Pakistan's energy needs for the next 5, 10 and 20 years and prepare a comprehensive physical and financial plan for energy development in Pakistan. A core group will be established in London for this purpose while a representative of the corporation will be stationed at Islamabad.

Talking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport, Strong, a globally known energy expert, said Pakistan is maintaining one of the highest rates of economic growth among developing countries. In order to sustain this growth, the country needs increasing quantities of all types of energy. He said Pakistan has a major need to develop its coal, oil, gas, hydro, nuclear and other

forms of energy. Development of these sources need a tremendous amount of investment over a long period. Bad decisions on this score will mean disastrous consequences.

Strong said, it is encouraging to see that Pakistan is following a rational and coordinated energy policy under the guidance of President Gen Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

He said members of his team will interact with Pakistani energy officials on the basis of which a comprehensive energy development strategy will be incorporated in the sixth five-year plan.

Asked whether Pakistan needs to develop nuclear energy, Strong said, it should develop all sources of energy, but what quantity and priority each form of energy should have, is still to be considered. He said how far each type of energy can be developed will depend a great deal, on availability of financial resources. He said it will be a part of the IEDC's work programme to mobilise resources.

The group will assist the government over the next sixteen months, under the present arrangement.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mahbubul Haq said, the government has been lucky to persuade Strong and his associates to prepare a 20 year energy development programme with special reference to the sixth plan. He said with a fast growth in economy, particularly industry, the demand for energy has shot up. Besides this, three fourth of Pakistani villages have yet to be electrified. This magnitude of the problem makes it incumbent on the government to develop all sources of energy. He said Strong's services have been acquired to help the country in this important task.

POWER DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SIND DISCUSSED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

The Sind Senior Minister, Mir Rasool Bux Talpur yesterday underlined the need for utilization of available resources for completion of power projects of province within the stipulated period.

He was presiding over a high level meeting held to discuss and review the physical and financial progress of power development programme in Sind at new Sind Secretariat.

Talpur said that work on 500 KV line between Guddu and Hyderabad should be speeded up to complete it by June 1983 which will help to strengthen capacity of the weak transmission link between the above two places.

The meeting was informed that in Sind villages, there were 19,244 connections in the year 1959 which rose in 1977 to 2,54,117 connections and in 1982 to 3,90,760, showing increase of 53 per cent during last four years.

Regarding per capita consumption, it was informed that in the year 1972 it was at 34 units in 1977 about 44 units and in 1982 it has reached to 74 units. The

increase in five years 1972-77 was 30 per cent and in the last four, 68 per cent.

The meeting also discussed power development in Thar, Kohi-stan and Nara valley areas in Sind.

In view of the increasing demand of the people it was decided to open two new divisions, one each at Hyderabad and Nau-shero Feroz in Nawabshah district, by the Sind Area Electricity Board.

The meeting was further informed that pace of rural electrification in the country is being accelerated. Next year, about 2000 villages will be electrified in the country of which, 432 villages in Sind will get electricity.

The meeting also discussed the matters relating to delay in connections, wrong billing, employment to local people by WAPDA, electrification of villages having two or three poles distance from existing lines, establishment of power station at Lakhra, electrification of Diplo town, reduction of load shedding in Sind and exercise of notified powers of the area board of Sind.

C.R.O. 4220/565

EXCHANGE OF COUNCILOR TEAMS PRAISED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 p 3

[Text]

The Sind Governor, Lt-Gen S. M. Abbasi, yesterday told the visiting 8-member delegation of the councillors from NWFP that the Local Government system introduced by the present government throughout the country had brought the councillors from all levels and of different areas together for the greater good of the country.

The Governor appreciated frequent exchange of local councillors delegations which, he observed, would enable creating better understanding among the people of the four provinces.

He pointed out that the Sind Government had been publishing various magazines which were also circulated throughout the country to apprise the local councils of the development activities taking place in Sind.

He observed that the Local Government system introduced in Sind was best suited to the local requirements.

The Governor felt that the local councils should now stand on their own feet to meet the basic needs of the people and thus relieve the provincial ADP from looking after bigger and urgent projects.

While explaining to the NWFP councillors the important features of the Local Government system, the Governor said:

(i) Panchayats have been constituted at the grass-roots-level of village or Mohallah which form the basic unit of self-government at the very door step of the masses.

(ii) Coordination committees have been set up at the district and divisional level in order to

bring about a comprehensive and well integrated approach to bear upon the solution of problems of local areas.

(iii) Local councils have been entrusted with a wide role and delegated authority in developmental, administrative, judicial, social welfare and community development fields. As a result of improved financial resources and better financial management, local councils are in a position to effectively execute their priority schemes.

(iv) It is a matter of great significance that by virtue of their much enhanced resources and the wide span of physical coverage over the entire length and breadth of the province, the local councils in Sind now view with the provincial government, itself as the principal agency involved in developmental work. With the Local Councils catering for local needs, the provincial government will be able to concentrate its own resources more effectively to tackle the larger issues.

(v) The vast resources of the local councils are now being deployed and utilised by the elected representatives of the people who are themselves accountable to the people.

The Governor desired that the councillors should come to the expectations of the people and to the present government which has introduced the Local Government system throughout the country in a more effective and representative mould after a lapse of many years. They should work with greater dedication, fervour and determination in the spirit of Khidmat-e-Khalq.

PAKISTAN

JAMiat-e-Tulaba CHIEF MAKES STATEMENT

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 14

[Text]

LAHORE, April 24: The Nazim-i-Aala of Islami Jamiat Tulaba, Pakistan, Mr Shabbir Ahmad, said in a statement issued here yesterday that he had with him a licensed pistol for his personal security when he went to the airport in Lahore on Wednesday. This, he said, was used by Government agencies as a pretext for accusing him of planning to hijack the plane.

He explained that he was forced to take precautionary measures in view of the growing vulnerability of the Jamiat workers who had been subjected to assaults in various parts of the country.

He said the Jamiat was determined to expose Government functionaries who were out "to frustrate the advent of Islamic revolution" in Pakistan.

He said history would bear evidence that the Jamiat had not hesitated in offering the sacrifice of their workers for the defence of the ideological and geographical frontiers of the country.

In this connection, he referred to the sacrifices rendered by thousands of workers of Al-Badr in former East Pakistan.

He accused the Airport Security Force of involving innocent people in different cases, and alleged that the airports of Pakistan were notorious for the smuggling of narcotics.

He expressed the hope that the members of the journalist community would play their effective role in presenting a correct picture of the situation, and would convey the Jamiat's point of view to the people.

CSO: 4220/5681

MANPOWER EXPORT TALKS AT ADVANCED STAGE

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 p 3

[Text]

The Federal Secretary for Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistani, M. A. Kazmi, said in Karachi yesterday that negotiations with several Islamic countries were in advanced stage for the manpower export in those countries on State-to-State basis to save innocent people from the exploitation of the unscrupulous employment promoters.

He told a radio press conference that agreements with Libya, United Arab Emirates and Iraq were likely to be made soon in this respect.

Kazmi said that the licences of nearly 700 overseas employment promoters had been cancelled. He added that in view of the mounting complaints received against unscrupulous promoters, no new licences were now being issued. Their present number was only 350 in the country.

Answering a question, the Secretary said that Rs. 40 crore five-year programme had been undertaken with the assistance of the World Bank under which 35 new training centres would be set up and 37 existing centres would be improved. He added that two centres would be set up in the Punjab and Sind each and one centre in NWFP and Baluchistan where training in a variety of trades would be imparted which are in great demand overseas.

Stating that one lakh skilled labour force is required for export every year, the Secretary said that a crash training programme had also been launched to meet the situation.

Answering another question, Kazmi said that Overseas Pakistani Foundation had been set up. This foundation he added, had taken up establishment of three industrial projects, namely, ghee manufacturing unit, PIA-Kuwait shavers and a compost plant. One

milk plant was also under consideration. In these projects, overseas Pakistanis would be invited to invest their capital.

As regards labour policy, he said that it would soon be announced. Government, he added was in contact with representatives of labour and the management.

He said that during the last four years industrial peace prevailed in the country. He said that increased facilities to the workers and other measures taken by the present government were responsible for industrial peace.

LEGAL CELLS IN
EMBASSIES

Legal cells have been set up on the Presidential directive in Pakistani embassies to provide legal advice to overseas Pakistanis, Kazmi disclosed.

He said that the Government had no figure of the Pakistanis in jails overseas. He, however, said that the number would not be much. He added that committees had been set up and its members are visiting jails to ascertain their number.

Regarding welfare measures taken by the Government, Kazmi said that Community Welfare Attachés had been attached to Pakistan embassies in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the UAE to keep contacts with Pakistani workers and attend to their problems. He added the number of Community Welfare Attachés had also been increased.

The Secretary said that a high-level delegation visited Middle East recently and discussed with governments about Pakistanis in detention there.

He further said that welfare officers had been posted at Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar to guide the Pakistani workers going abroad and returning home.

KARACHI COUNCILORS PROTEST MAYOR'S IJT BIAS

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 16

[Text]

Ten KMC Councillors reacted sharply on Wednesday to the expulsion of a member from the house on Sunday and expressed "no-confidence" in the Mayor and displeasure at his handling of the council meetings.

Addressing a Press conference at the Mewa Shah Union Committee Office (Bakra Piri), they said the Mayor turned out Councillor Ghulam Mohammad Chishti and thus showed his bias for Jamiat-i-Islami as Mr Chishti wanted to move an adjournment motion to condemn the attack on newspaper offices in Lahore by Islami Jamiat-i-Tulba.

Since the Mayor had become partisan, they said, they would demand permission to form an "opposition" to restore balance in the House.

They alleged that development works had been carried out only in the constituencies of the "supporters of the Mayor".

Explaining the point, they said, Liaquatabad had got Rs 1.4 million, while Lyari had failed to

get the promised Rs 14 million.

The councillors also demanded "adequate powers" for the Deputy Mayor who, according to them, had been rendered "absolutely powerless and ineffective".

They complained that the next year's budget proposals which were to be made available to the Councillors by April 14, were still incomplete, and recalled that last year the budget proposals were circulated as late as June 27.

The 10 Councillors demanded immediate disbandment of the Vigilance Committee, headed by Mirza Khurshid Beg, and alleged that the Mayor had not taken action against corrupt officials.

The Councillors who addressed the Press conference are: Meers Siddiq Rathore, Ghulam Mohammad Chishti, Abdul Qadir Solangi, Abdul Khalig Joom, Ansar Hussain Bokhari, Lal Mohammad Shakkar, Hajj Mohammad Siddiq, Mengal Khan Baloch, Mohammed Qasim, and Lal Mohammad Huz.

C90: 4220/570

IJT DISOWNS RANSACKING NAWA-I-WAQT

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 14

[Text]

LAHORE, April 28: Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba has disowned the acts of vandalism and ransacking the offices of daily Nawa-i-Waqt by "a group of students", according to a report published by the daily on Wednesday.

The report is based on a letter sent on Wednesday.

The report is based on a letter sent on Tuesday to the Editor Mr Majeed Nuzami, about the incident of last Friday (April 23), by the President, Punjab University Students Union, Mr. Saeed Saleemi, who belongs to Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba. He has termed the attack on Nawa-i-Waqt as "a mystery".

"Who were those individuals who attacked the Nawa-i-Waqt offices and where from they had come is a mystery for us too. If you solve this then we will also be thankful to you", wrote Mr Saleemi to the Editor, Mr Majeed Nuzami.

Mr Saleemi, in his letter, said "at the offices of the newspaper, which has caused the provocation most, the students went berserk and taken away by emotions some of them did what had never been our method".

Mr Saleemi further stated that the Nawa-i-Waqt story about the IJT chief was "neither provocative nor there was any propriety for any attack on your office due to that news item".

It was due to same that the pro-

session had marched away after expressing its sentiments peacefully, after stressing the need for "responsible journalism" and raising slogans against the newspapers publishing "contrary to the facts, false and concocted news". If the students had meant to harm Nawa-i-Waqt then at that occasion while they were assembled in large numbers they could have performed that action, he argued, adding, that their peaceful onward march from there (Nawa-i-Waqt) "proved that Nawa-i-Waqt was not their target".

However, the Jamiat leader, who is also President, PUSU, said, as on that day it were "we who had demonstrated this action got attributed to us".

Anyway, he continued, without involving in any argument, "we have heartfelt sorrow for the incident and equally share your pain and anxiety and sympathise with you and your workers".

"This odd incident is not a matter for any joy for us as well and instead our own hearts have also been hurt".

Concluding, the IJT leader hoped, "the true picture of events" would be presented before the readers so that misunderstandings were removed and no conspiracy should succeed to weaken the strong bond that exists between us and you with reference to Islam and ideology of Pakistan."

CSO: 4220/570

IDEOLOGY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN ON ISLAMIZATION EFFORTS

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 14

[Text]

CHINARI (Azad Kashmir). April 28: Dr. Justice Tanzeelur Rehman, Chairman Islamic Ideology Council, has said that July 5, 1977, occupies a unique importance in our national history as it was on this day that total commitment to Islam came as a national charter.

Speaking as the chief guest at a reception given in his honour by the AJK Adviser on Information Mr. Mohammad Khan Kiani, Dr. Justice Tanzeelur Rahman said that no single moment had been wasted in the rediscovery of the path towards Islamic revival.

The reception which was held in Chinari Rest House, was attended, among others, by Chairman of AJK Islamic Ideology Council, Mr. Justice Raja Mohammad Khurshid Khan; the Chief Justice High Court, Mr. Justice Mohammad Sharif Khan, judges of Supreme and High Courts, and a large number of high ranking officials, Councillors and Ulema.

He said the Islamic Ideology

Council had done appreciable work so far but a lot more was to be done, the basis for which had been laid down in the Constitution. He stressed the need for maintaining sectarian tolerance. Mr. Justice Tanzeelur Rahman said: "If we see in the right perspective, July 5, 1977, is the day when we started our journey to attain the objectives behind the creation of Pakistan. It was on this day that President of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, made a total commitment for an Islamic order in the country. Before July 1977, our position was like a traveller who had lost his vision or destination under the clouds of conflicting ideologies, he added.

Referring to the Kashmir issue, he said the people of Pakistan were as committed to it as the people of Jammu and Kashmir themselves were attached to it. Despite the Simla accord relevant UN resolutions on this issue were still alive. The righteousness will ultimately triumph, he added.

CSC: 4220/570

COMMENTARY ON TREND TOWARD VIOLENCE, SEX CRIMES

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by Ghazi Salahuddin]

[Text]

WHAT are the potential sources of conflict in our society? Why has so many individuals and groups withdrawn their commitment to cherished norms? Have we ceased to be a community of shared values? And given the deviant anti-social - behaviour that is increasingly evident, what lies ahead?

Questions, again. Every time you contemplate the scene you are assailed by questions. Every time you want to search for their answers, complications arise. You become a mute or muttering observer of sudden events that show that society is losing its equilibrium.

One such event, more meaningful than you would realise momentarily, was the Friday attack on two national dailies in Lahore by the Islamic Jamiat-e-Tulba militants. I find it relevant because a country-wide strike was observed by newspapers on Sunday to protest against what was described as an attack on the freedom of the Press.

Thus, for newsmen at least, there was an occasion to disengage themselves for a day from their pressing routines and sit and ponder.

As a journalist, I feel personally affected. But a satisfying interpretation of the event eludes me. It seems paradoxical that the two newspapers attacked were generally sympathetic to the cause of the attackers. It is also surprising that the law enforcing agencies failed to reach the spot in time. One newspaper office is said to be just across

a police station. And the students had come in buses through main roads - on Friday.

A similar situation has persisted in Karachi at a minor, often farcical level. The Jamiat students at the University of Karachi have been staging their show against the very authorities that have been partial to them. There is a message in this revolt against one's protectors that is not easy to decipher.

The Lahore incident, as some newspapers have pointedly noted, bears intimations of fascism. On Sunday, staying home until late in the afternoon, I had time to have a glance at some reviews of the Italian and the German experience before the Second World War.

I have enough to quote but here are just a few words by one-time US supreme court judge, Hugo L. Black: "It will not be enough to stamp out anti-democratic practices in the land of our enemies. The conditions which created Fascism there must not pass unnoticed here. Their first and most dangerous symptom is always the same everywhere: an abandonment of equal justice to all, the placing of some groups in a preferred class of citizenship at the expense of other groups".

We live in a different age and have to contend with our own set of contradictions. Still, the attack on newspapers in Lahore betrays a wilful rejection of ethical motives. It came as another shattering evidence of growth in violence in our society.

Come to think of it, the seed of the issue was the loaded pistol that the Jamiat chief was reported to be

carrying in his briefcase while boarding the Peshawar plane from Lahore. It was a properly licensed weapon.

There must have been some justification for a student leader of one faction to be so armed in a polarized community. But the revelation was mystifying. One would think that after armed clashes among students, all of them were disarmed.

Remember that intensive drive in Karachi in December to mop up fire-arms from the Camps? Remember the police pickets on the University Road, searching all vehicles? It was shocking to see steppans and other weapons recovered from both factions. When the students raided the two newspapers they had pistols. There has been no period in our past when the students had such easy access to guns.

White slave traffic

There must be something seriously wrong in the present drift of our society to create this situation. An alarming indicator of the social disequilibrium is violent crime, which appears to be going.

One crime report this week was about a sixty-year-old man shaving the head of his seventeen-year-old wife and also beating her. It happened in Karachi. Newspapers reported the story in the cryptic style, they have perfected for news about crime.

But look at what was revealed in passing. I quote: "According to police, accused Aamz Khan reportedly purchased 17-year-old Salma from some unknown brokers for Rs. 20,000. He made a down payment of Rs. 3,500 in advance and also got a receipt of it. Later he paid the balance and married the girl, and also shaved her head so that no young man should stare at her".

"What is the real and big story in these perfunctory lines? Let it sink. Take a few minutes and visualize the whole situation. Brokers selling young women in Karachi? White slave traffic? There were no details, no follow-up, no separate inquiries, no comments from any quarters - as far as I know.

Yes, in a abstract sense, we are

aware of such things happening. We are also losing the capacity to be shocked by instances of injustice, cruelty and exploitation. But why can't newspapers do some investigative reporting in this sphere? I am a newman. I feel guilty. It is easier to print statements.

And there was one that relates dimly to the story of a young girl sold to an old man who became worthy of attention because neighbours heard her crying and called the police.

In yesterday's issue, over two hundred writers, educationists, journalists and artists were reported as condemning the view that women are responsible for the prevalence of sex crimes. Again, it related to Dr. Asrar Ahmed and the great issue of women's rights and status in society.

It was good to see so many intellectuals stressing that factors leading to sex crimes are social, economic and psychological - purdah or no purdah. In a sense, this is what I have been repeating. I should also pay tribute to those who have signed the statement. There are names that prompt a pleasant surprise. Even when they are not able to play a larger social role, they do have enlightened and progressive views. I should like to return to this subject later.

For the moment, I am concerned with crime as a mirror of society. And it is difficult not to repeat myself when I talk about crime and violence. It is even more difficult not to stress that there is growing evidence about an increase in popular discontent, anxiety and confusion. In offices, in streets and in their personal relations, people demonstrate their loss of interest in the well-being of the community. We all seem to have become partners in the subversion of the social system - whether through violent behaviour or withdrawal.

Let us have Yeats - and this has been my refrain: "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold." This time, two more lines from the same composition: "The best lack all conviction while the worst/Are full of passionate intensity".

SIX TECHNICAL CENTERS PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 4

[Text] FAISALABAD, April 30: Mr. Ghulam Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis, while addressing a meeting of the sugarcane growers and labourers at Gojra Samundri sugar mills near Samundri town of Faisalabad district on Thursday disclosed that the Federal Government would shortly set up six technical centres, in the country where skilled manpower would be produced to meet the growing requirements in the country and abroad.

He said the present regime, headed by President Zia-ul-Haq was taking steps and making utmost efforts to create an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding between the workers and the employers in order to ensure maximum possible industrial productivity which was vital for the country's economy and its future.

The Minister further said Pakistani workers were being respected abroad and they were paid better wages than the workers of other countries because of their technical skill and industrious capacity.

The Labour Minister reiterated that the rights of workers would be fully protected in the new labour policy and employers would not be allowed to usurp their rights.

Mr. Ghulam Dastgir Khan said if we want to build the country on sound foundations

we should follow the principles of Islam. He warned if we failed to do so we would never be able to achieve our cherished objective for which Pakistan was created by the Father of the Nation, Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah. Earlier, a member of the Majlis-e-Shoora, Mr. Mohammad Abdullah Ghazi and a labour leader, Mr. Mohammad Aslam Wafa, in their separate addresses of welcome put forward various problems being faced by the local dwellers of Samundri and industrial workers. They pointed out that water-logging and salinity was the main problem of the people of this area and demanded that Samundri tehsil should be declared a SCARP area. They also demanded that Madina Drain passing through the area should be desilted properly so that Samundri town could remain safe during the rainy season.

SEMINAR

Later in the evening, the Federal Minister presided over a seminar held in the local District Council Hall. The seminar was largely attended by the labour community and addressed by Mr. Saleh Mohammad Niaz, Chairman, All-Pakistan Textile Workers Federation, Raja Auranzeb, President, Independent Federation of Labour, Pakistan, Begum Sanaullah Shaheed, Member Federal Council, and President of

Layalpur Cotton Mills Workers Union, Syed Nazar Hassan Shah, President, Faisalabad Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Dr. Israr Ahmad, a prominent religious scholar.

In their speeches they demanded that the labour community of the country be given adequate facilities, sufficient increase be made in their wages and security be provided in their services.

The Federal Minister in his speech urged the need for maintaining discipline and unity among all ranks of workers and boosting of industrial production in the country. He assured them that the Government would take appropriate steps to safeguard the interests of the workers and make reasonable increase in their wages.

The Minister declared that the Government would shortly formulate the long-awaited new labour policy, which would provide an incentive to the workers to perform their duties under a congenial atmosphere.

He added the "right of hire and fire" would be restored through the implementation of the said policy. He said the draft of the new labour policy has been handed over to a standing committee for scrutiny and it would be given a final shape after getting the opinion of workers' representatives, mill owners and the concerned officials of the Labour Ministry.

NEW BOOK ON PARTITION DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 9

[Article by Yahia Syed]

[Text]

London, April 20: A new book, 'Mountbatten and the Partition of India', to be published in India next week by Vikas of New Delhi, would fully justify the accusation in Pakistan and elsewhere that the last British Viceroy in India, Lord Louis Mountbatten, hated Quaid-i-Azam and would provide documentary evidence that he deliberately did all in his power to hurt Pakistan because of his immense dislike of the Quaid and what he stood for.

Mountbatten called the Quaid 'De Gaulle of his day', in a derogatory way.

'Mountbatten and the Partition of India', is based on the transcript of the very frank, even bordering on uncivility and downright rudeness, interviews given by Lord Mountbatten to Dominique Lapierre and Larry Coloma, between 1971 and 1973, while they were researching for their book 'Freedom at Midnight', published in 1975 by Collins, London.

The new book also includes for the first time ever, disclosures made in the Mountbatten Archives, hitherto not made public.

In a stringent and biting assessment of his political adversary in whom he found his match, Lord Mountbatten depicts the Quaid as a man whose 'arrogance and obstinacy' led him to reject a unified India and to accept the 'second best' in the Quaid's own words, 'a maimed, truncated Pakistan,' says Mountbatten.

LAMENTS OF MOUNTBATTEN

In his long interview Lord Mountbatten confessed he failed with Mr Jinnah. 'He was the key to the whole

thing. Dear old Gandhi held nothing at all in his hands'.

"All this misery and trouble was caused by Jinnah and no one else, and he hasn't had one word said against him". He laments.

Mountbatten described the Quaid in very rude words, even calling him "evil genius in this whole thing . . . he had closed his ears. Immovable and impervious . . . he was absolutely set on his cry of 'No'—he was the de Gaulle of his day."

Besides detailed references to the Quaid and the caustic comments about him by Mountbatten, he also desiccates other leading figures of the time of Britain's withdrawal from the Sub-continent.

QUAID'S SICKNESS

As the joint authors of 'Freedom at Midnight' have disclosed that the Quaid, according to their research, was dying of tuberculosis and was living on will power and cigarettes during the negotiations, Lord Mountbatten says he was not aware of this and, had he known, he might have acted differently in dealing with the threatened partition which he thought 'ghastly and sheer madness'.

'I'm glad I didn't (know) because I don't know what I would have done', confesses Mountbatten.

'Freedom at Midnight' when published in 1975 was not banned by the Bhutto regime, but all the 500 copies of the book which reached Pakistan were bought by the then Government and locked safely away. This was disclosed to 'DAWN', by a civil servant, now retired and living here, who had taken this act on on Bhutto's instruction.

'Mountbatten and the Partition of India', the unpublished still not made public in London, is bound to raise a violent storm of protest in Pakistan.

PP1 adds, 'The Pakistani community in Europe has felt greatly outraged at the excerpts published in the Western media from "Mountbatten and the Partition of India".'

This was stated in London on Friday by Mr Muazzam Ali, Chairman, Centre for Pakistan Studies.

Mr Muazzam Ali said that the vulgar and abusive language used by late Lord Mountbatten is nothing but a reflection on Mountbatten's own personality.

The excerpts taken from interviews given by Mountbatten give the lie to the false accusations that Pakistan's creation was inspired by the British as Mountbatten unequivocally acknowledged that he was strongly opposed to the creation of Pakistan.

They also vindicate Quaid-i-Azam's decision to reject Mountbatten's request to appoint him as Governor-General of Pakistan, as was done by India.

The facts revealed prove beyond doubt that in rejecting Mountbatten's request, the Quaid-i-Azam was guided by the interests of Pakistan and Pakistan alone and in doing so he thwarted further damage which Mountbatten would have inflicted on the young country, had Quaid-i-Azam agreed to his request, concluded Mr Muazzam Ali.-

CSO: 4220/571

SCOPE, PROSPECTS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 15

(Article by A. Hafeez Khan)

[Text]

SUGAR has been stealing the limelight in newspaper columns quite frequently during the past two to three weeks. The sweetheart of old, young and children alike, it is going to be henceforth accessible without much ado, say the producers and high ranking Government officials. The supply from indigenous production, it is hoped, will substantially exceed the demand in the current season. A surplus for exports is seen as a sure guess for 1982.

Replying to a question in Majlis-e-Azma, the Federal Food Minister has said that sugar production would hit a new peak at 1.2 million tonnes at the end of the current crushing season. He also said that since the beginning of the current season, from November 1981 and till March 1982, sugar production was in the region of 0.97 million tonnes. Thanks to a sizeable increase in sugarcane production, the crushing in Punjab and Sind is expected to continue till June. The average sucrose recovery in mills located in Punjab and Sind have, however, declined this year to around 8.50 to 8.75 per cent compared with the preceding year's 8.75 to 9.15 per cent. This is attributed partly to inadequate water supplies in the canals and absence of normal rains

in cane-growing areas. Moreover, the extended crushing in hot months like May and June is also likely to adversely affect sucrose recovery.

Reverting to increase in production, the estimated 1.2 million tonnes for the current season is going to be higher by 40.88 per cent than the preceding year's production of 851,000 tonnes. At this level of production and the current rate of consumption, the country will have a surplus of 0.30 million tonnes for export.

The Fifth Plan had projected the demand for sugar in the country to rise to 1.2 million tonnes by 1983 but keeping in view the performance of the sugar industry during the past years, the production target was set conservatively at one million tonnes. But now the production has exceeded the targeted level a year in advance.

Turning to consumption availability of sugar, we find that for the population of 85 million in 1982, the per capita availability of refined sugar — both from cane and beet — works out to 14.12 kg which is higher than the projected availability of 11.56 kg at the end of the Plan period. The actual per head availability of sugar in 1982, at 14.12 kg, works out to 1.18 kg per head per month which is about 48 per cent higher than the quota of 800 grammes per head per month available in urban areas through ration shops.

In view of the above situation, the official thinking appears to be veering round a proposal to abolish the distribution control on sugar. At the same time, the possibility of exporting sugar is

also being considered. But while considering the abolition of distribution control and rationing and the possibility of exports, a number of factors will have to be reckoned with.

To begin with, this will imply the withdrawal of the provincial governments as ready buyers of sugar from mills. The official procurement of sugar has freed the sugar industry of all worries and expenses of marketing and distribution. At the same time the availability of advance payments from provincial governments against purchases of sugar enables them to dispense with the need of arranging finances through bank borrowing and payment of interests. The borrowings, if at all resorted to especially by mills in Punjab and NWFP, are not so large as to cause heavy interest liability. This is a great advantage enjoyed by the sugar industry.

The free market conditions, if restored to sugar industry and trade, would also generate competition among the mills, and it is quite possible that the present price structure, maintained through price and distribution controls, might come in for a bearish pressure and thereby the profitability of the mills might also be affected.

With the rapid growth of sugar industry leading to larger production, the mills will have to come out of the managed framework of government procurement and its sale at arbitrary fixed prices. On the other hand, free market conditions would also enable the mills to purchase sugarcane from cane growers at a price which may be determined in the light of the

conditions of supplies of cane in different regions, although a minimum price may be maintained to protect the interest of cane growers. That, unless free market conditions are introduced in the sugar industry, it will be hardly possible to explore the prospects of exports.

The prevailing prices of sugar in the country are considerably higher than in the international markets where they have come down by over 40 per cent in one year to around 13.80 cents per lb compared with 23.42 cents per lb. The current rate works out

to around Rs. 261 per kg while the price charged from Pakistani consumers is Rs. 7 per kg. Similarly, the London price of white sugar at £ 1.188 per ton works out to Rs. 2,128 per ton (at the rate of one pound sterling equal to Rs. 21). As against this, the procurement price paid by the provincial governments to the sugar mills is Rs. 6.601 per tonne inclusive of excise duty. Even if the excise duty of Rs. 2.150 per tonne is excluded, the ex-mill price would work out to Rs. 3,851 per tonne which is still higher than the London price of Rs. 2,128. Thus, the sugar price shall have to come down substantially for the purpose of export.

In the international sugar market, supplies continue to exceed demand. This is evident from applications for substantial increase in export quotas, made by leading sugar producing/exporting countries to the International Sugar Organisation (ISO). The provisional export quotas fixed for this year by the ISO are reported to be around 16.50 million tonnes — 8.9 per cent higher than last year's 15.15 million tonnes. The quotas for 1982 are stated to be 85 per cent of actual exports of 19.44 million tonnes recorded in 1981, which were higher by 8.2 per cent over 1980 exports of 17.80 million tonnes. This is indicative of a steady expansion in world demand for sugar, despite the availability of low priced alternative sweeteners in the Western world.

Leading exporters, with their respective quotas for 1982, in million tonnes, are Australia 3.329, Brazil 3.291, Cuba 2.827, Philippines 1.884, Thailand 1.352, Dominican Republic 1.159, and South Africa 1.083. India's quota has been reduced this year from 824,000 tonnes to 454,000 tonnes but it has applied for a quota of 700,000 tonnes.

The entry of Pakistan into the international sugar market as exporter will entail a quota allocation from ISO. But besides this, other factors have also to be taken note of. While overpriced currently in terms of world rates, Pakistan sugar does not compare favourably in quality, especially in terms of refinement, with other producing countries. Improvement in quality is, therefore, necessary before making a

debut on the export front.

A basic malaise affecting sugar industry is the low per acre yield of sugarcane, which in turn makes the cost of cultivation substantially higher than the comparative cost in other sugar-cane producing countries. Area-wise, Pakistan ranks fourth among the sugarcane producing countries. But it has perhaps the lowest per acre yield, averaging 17 tonnes per acre compared to 30 tonnes in Philippines, 73 tonnes in Peru and 90 tonnes in Brazil. This shows that the cost per unit of sucrose produced, is two to four times higher compared with the above mentioned countries. As a result of this, with attractive cane prices, growers go in for increasing the area under cane cultivation, while the yield remains low.

Another problem, perhaps unique in this country, is the intense competition between the mills and village gur makers. Gur and unrefined sugar continue to be popular among consumers in rural areas due partly to their traditional use as sweeteners and partly to their low price compared with white sugar. Experience has shown — especially on the previous three years — that gur makers can attract a major portion of the available cane supply by paying higher prices to the cane growers. The competition faced by the mills from gur makers took a grave turn in 1979-80 and with reduced supplies to mills sugar production hit the low at 586,000 tonnes, declining from the output of 861,000 tonnes in 1978-79. To tackle with this problem, the Government had to increase the purchase price of cane at mid gate by Rs. 2 per maund to Rs. 9.15 in Sind, Rs. 9 in Punjab and Rs. 8.75 in NWFP, in addition to steps to check gur making and extending incentives to sugar mills.

Although investment in sugar industry is moving fairly rapidly both in the private and public sector and projects for the establishment of mini sugar mills have also been initiated, the problem of high prices could impede the country's entry in the export market. This can be overcome only when the per acre yield of sugarcane increases by at least 30 per cent from the present low of 17 tonnes.

PAKISTAN

GAS FIELDS: PRODUCTION AND RESERVE STATISTICS ON NATURAL GAS

Karachi PROGRESS in English April 82 p 1

[Text]

SUI gas currently saves more than a billion dollars a year in foreign exchange.

GAS offtake from Sui is equivalent to 60,000 barrels of furnace oil per day.

GAS transmission and distribution network in the country exceeds 9000 miles.

NATURAL gas serves more than 760,000 premises or very nearly four million persons.

SOme 3900 industrial units account for more than 90 percent of gas consumption while about a million domestic and commercial users consume only 10 percent.

GASFIELDS: PRODUCTION & RESERVES

(In Million Cubic Feet)

Name of Field	Discovered By (Organisation)	Location (Province)	Year of Discovery	*Recoverable Reserves	Production Upto Dec. 1981	Balance On 1st Jan. 1982
Sui	PPL	Baluch'n	1952	8,624,441	2,500,024	6,124,417
Zin	PPL	Baluch'n	1954	100,000	—	100,000
Uch	PPL	Baluch'n	1955	2,500,000	—	2,500,000
Khairpur	PPL	Sind	1956	1,000,000	—	1,000,000
Mazarani	PPL	Sind	1958	91,000	—	91,000
Khandkot	PPL	Sind	1959	406,606	—	406,606
<u>12,722,047</u>					<u>10,222,023</u>	
Mani	Stanvac	Sind	1957	<u>3,942,000</u>	188,709	<u>3,753,291</u>
San	OGDC	Sind	1965	<u>29,000</u>	22,978	<u>56,022</u>
Hundi	OGDC	Sind	1970	<u>50,000</u>	—	—
Kothar	OGDC	Sind	1973	N.A.	—	N.A.
Rodho	OGDC	Punjab	1974	N.A.	—	N.A.
Dhodak	OGDC	Punjab	1976	N.A.	—	N.A.
Pirkoh	OGDC	Baluch'n	1977	<u>1,000,000</u>	—	<u>1,000,000</u>
<u>1,079,000</u>					<u>1,056,022</u>	
				TOTAL: 17,743,047	2,711,711	15,031,336
ASSOCIATED GAS						
Dhulan	POL	Punjab		1,378,294	281,227	1,097,067
Meyal	POL	Punjab				
				GRAND TOTAL: 19,121,341	2,992,938	16,128,403

* Estimated original recoverable reserves.

Notes: San and Hundi reserves are shown separately but production upto December 1981 and balance on 1st January 1982 shown as one.
(a) Similarly, gas reserves, production and balance reserves of associated gas from Dhulan and Meyal are shown as one.

BRIEFS

WELCOME AWAITS CAFFAR KHAN--PESHAWAR, April 27--Warm welcome is awaiting Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, founder of Khidmatgar Movement in the NWFP when he arrives at Torkham, the Pak-Afghan border tomorrow. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan had fractured his hip bone and has been receiving treatment in a Kabul hospital under Russian doctors. His son Abdul Wali Khan, a leader of defunct NDP has just returned from Kabul after seeing Ghaffar Khan. Earlier at his return from Kabul after meeting his father, Abdul Wali Khan had said that Ghaffar Khan has agreed to visit Pakistan when the doctors allow him so. Besides a large number of Khidmatgars and defunct NDP workers Abdul Wali Khan, Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilor, Abdul Khaliq Khan, Haji Mohammad Adeel and others would be present at Torkham to receive their leader. [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Apr 82 p 3]

STUDENTS DAMAGE SHOP--SAHIWAL, April 24--Some 18 students damaged the shop of daily "Jang" Press Photographer and Al-Masood New Agency here on Saturday. Police have registered a case under Section 379 PPC and 16 MPO but no arrest has been made so far. It is stated that the students raising slogans against daily "Jang" broke into the photographic shop of Mairaj Din Zafar, Press Photographer, daily "Jang" and after breaking various articles set them on fire. They are also alleged to have taken away some material. These students also attacked the Al-Masood News Agency and set the copies of newspapers on fire. The District Press Club and Journalists Welfare Forum, Shaiwal, in a joint meeting held here with Mr Rashid Akmal in the chair, condemned this act of hooliganism and called for immediate action against the culprits. [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 1]

SIGNATURE DRIVE FOR NEWSMEN--The Executive Committee of Karachi Union of Journalists (Barna Group) has decided to launch a signature campaign among the journalist fraternity to demand release of three journalists messers Irshad Rao, Wahid Bashir and Zamin Ali Shah, of weekly "Al-Fatah" says a Press release. At a meeting held at Karachi Press Club under the chairmanship of KUJ President, Mr Abdul Qudoos, the Committee directed all units to launch the campaign immediately. The meeting expressed concern over the reports about deteriorating health conditions of the three journalists who were arrested in January 1981 from the weekly Al-Fatah office. [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 6]

NATIONAL GUARDS ORGANIZATION--The Sind Government will provide required assistance for organising the National Guards initially in Karachi which will serve as a model for other parts of the province, says an official handout. A decision to this effect was taken at a meeting held under the chairmanship of the Sind Home Secretary which discussed the areas of assistance for motivating people to participate in the National Guards Organisation. The National Guards Scheme comprises the Mujahid Force, the Janbaz Force the National Cadet Corps and Women Guards. The meeting was attended by the Commissioner of Karachi, DIG Police, Commander National Guards, and representative of the Education, Information and Home Departments. [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 6]

GOODWILL TEAM FOR BEIJING--ISLAMABAD, April 24--A 10 member goodwill delegation, led by former Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Mr. Mumtaz Alvie, who is also the President of the Pakistan-China Friendship Association, will leave tomorrow morning for Beijing on a two-week visit at the invitation of Mr. Wang Bingnan, President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Members of the delegation include Mian Ziauddin, former Ambassador and senior advocate of the Supreme Court; Brig; Gulzar Ahmed, a senior author and scholar; Mian Mohammad Shafi ('Meem Sheen'), member of majlis-i-Shoora; Mirza Aziz Beg, a veteran journalist; Dr. M. S. Zahid of Pakistan Science Foundation. [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Apr 82 p 6]

BOYCOTT OF CLASSES, DEMONSTRATIONS--LAHORE, April 28--The students of different colleges and universities boycotted their classes and held demonstrations within the premises of their respective institutions here on Wednesday, to press for the release of arrested students, says a Press release issued by Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba. The Punjab University Law College students boycotted their classes and held a protest meeting which was addressed by Secretary, Law College Union, Mr Mujibur Rehman Burki, and Nazim, Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba, Law College, Mr Akram Chaudhri. The speakers demanded the release of arrested students. The students of the Engineering University boycotted their classes and took out a procession inside the University Campus. The processionists shouted slogans against the Administration and yellow journalism. They also held a protest meeting which was addressed by Jamiat leaders. The students of F. C. College, Islamia College, Civil Lines, and MAO College also boycotted their classes and held protest meetings. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 16]

IJT STUDENTS HELD--LAHORE, April 30--The police have arrested two students, Kafayatullah and Mohammad Umer, belonging to Islami Jamiat-i-Tulba, for distributing handbills containing anti-Government material. Such handbills were distributed in all the big and small mosques of the city after Juma prayers today. The police have registered a case under MLR 13 against the students. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 1]

POLICE EXCESSES DENIED--LAHORE, April 30--A spokesman of the Punjab Government categorically denied today that any member of the staff was manhandled by the police in the MAO College on Thursday as stated in news items. The only member of the staff, a lecturer, hurt in the action was hurt by brickbats thrown by the students at the police. The spokesman added that during the operation in

the college some members of the teaching staff were kept with the police party to ensure that none others than the students were hauled up. He said further that the examinations going on in the college were not disrupted because they were over by the time the police entered into the college. The allegation was vehemently denied that the police got into a private residence on the premises. It was stated that no one had come forward with any report or complaint about valuables having been pilfered by the raiding policemen as alleged in the news items. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 1]

AID FOR TRAINING INSTITUTE--FAISALABAD, April 30--Mr. Herbert Kuntz, Project Manager of International Financial Aid group of West Germany visited the WAPDA Training Institute here on Tuesday and held discussions with the Principal and teaching staff of the institute in connection with contemplated 12 million duetch mark aid for modernisation of the institute. Mr Kuntz inspected the different section, of the institute and examined the existing facilities undergoing augmentation by the WAPDA resources. He also visited the 200 magawatt turbine power station, Nishatabad, and exchanged views with Mr. Shakoor Ahmed, Chief Engineer. Mr. S. M. Yusuf, Deputy Managing Direction of IDBP said that the Industrial Development Agency (IDA) of the World Bank would grant a loan of Rs. 20 crore for the establishment of small-scale industries in Pakistan and modernization of the small existing units. Addressing members of the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce here he told that out of this amount, a sum of Rs 16 crore has been earmarked for disbursment and Rs 4 crore for meeting the administrative expenditure fo the small-scale industries. He said that the IDBP had been provided a sum of Rs. 8 crore to advance loans to intending small industrialists while the Pakistani banks have been allowed to advance a loan upto Rs. 8 lakh for setting up small industries. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 4]

DERA GHAZI KHAN A DIVISION--LAHORE, April 30--Dera Ghazi Khan will be declared a division during the first week of May, when the President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq pays a visit there. It will be the third district upgraded to the level of division during the current year. However, the decision will be enforced from July 1 as in the case of Gujranwala and Faisalabad Divisions. The new division will include districts of D. G. Khan, Leiah, and Rajanpur. During the forthcoming visit of the President to D. G. Khan an industrial estate will also be set up in that city. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 4]

PAKISTAN-DPRK TIES--ISLAMABAD, April 30--Mr Li Jong Ok, Premier of Democratic People's Republic of Korea said last night that his country cherished the friendly relations between DPRK and Pakistan and would make every effort to further deepen them. He was speaking at the dinner hosted in his honour by the Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. He said: "Our people always follow with deep interest the endeavours made by the Pakistani people to build a new society, independent and prosperous, and are heartily rejoiced over the great successes made by them under the leadership of their respected leader, President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq." Speaking on the occasion, Mr Yaqub said the visit of Premier Li Jong Ok had provided a valuable opportunity to exchange views on matters of mutual concern which would further reinforce the cordial ties that existed between the two countries. He said the bilateral relations between the two countries would serve as a good example of how relations

between countries, having different social systems, could be developed into a symbolic relationship which was to the mutual benefit of both countries. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 May 82 p 14]

GAFFAR ARRIVES IN PAKISTAN--PESHAWAR, April 28--The former Red Shirt leader, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, arrived here today after about four-year self-exile in Afghanistan. He was received at Torkham by his relatives, friends and admirers. Later Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan left for his village near Charsadda. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 1]

EXPORT OF VEGETABLES ALLOWED--The Government has allowed the export of fresh vegetables and has laid down the procedure for the export of different items, it was learnt here. The vegetables which can be exported include dried 'methi' leaves packed in small airtight container or packer, onion, potato, garlic, 'zira', asparagus, artichoke, celery, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, turnip, carrot and radish. Of these, exports of onion, potato, turnip, carrot and radish will be subject to registration of contract with the Export Promotion Bureau while the export of other vegetables will be free. Apart from these 13 kinds of vegetables, export of no other fresh vegetable is permissible at present. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 1]

AID FOR REFUGEES--Afghan refugees in Pakistan will receive an additional dollar 18.5 million in emergency food aid from the World Food Programme (WFP), it is learnt in Karachi. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 1]

FACILITIES FOR FARM EXPERTS--ISLAMABAD, April 28--The Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Dr. Amir Mohammad on Sunday said the eminent agricultural experts will be placed in 18 to 22 grade. They will be provided with congenial atmosphere to conduct various research programmes smoothly. The Chairman told newsmen the idea behind the move is to attract more agronomists by offering them best facilities. He said that a number of Pakistani agronomists, presently working abroad, had recently agreed to come back. They had demanded nothing but conducive atmosphere in the country to work, he added. Dr Amir said the research work carried out in the past to determine various issues concerning agriculture was not encouraging. The agronomists, he said, had failed to achieve the desired result mainly because of funds. Dr Amir briefed newsmen about difficulties facing Pakistan researchers. Population in the country, he said, is increasing with a frequency which will harm the entire present socio-economic set-up if a detailed agricultural research programme is not launched shortly. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 4]

STUDENTS' RELEASE URGED--The President of Karachi University Students Union, Mr Mahmood Ghaznavi, and Joint Secretary, Mr Ayaz Sarwat Farooqui, have demanded the release of the arrested University students. In a joint statement they said the University students would continue their "peaceful and positive movement" till the acceptance of their demands. The KUSU President condemned the alleged attack on the President of NED University Students Union, Mr Altaf Shakoor, and demanded action against those responsible for it. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 10]

NASRULLAH'S DETENTION EXTENDED--MUZAFFARGARH, April 28--Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan was informed by the Deputy Superintendent of subjail Khangarh today that the DMLA of Multan has extended his detention for a further three-month period. [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Apr 82 p 14]

MARCOS REGIME CRITICIZED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 13 Apr 82 pp 4, 13

[Article by Danny M. Gonzales: "A Reformed Filipino"]

[Text]

AFTER MORE than a decade of Mr. Marcos' rule — pre-martial law, martial law, and post-martial law — we can now safely assesses, without fear of contradiction, the man's performance as nothing less than a dismal failure: economically, politically, socially — even morally. And let this conclusion be nothing but a hollow assertion. Let us back it up with facts.

THE FACTS

ECONOMICALLY, we need not be told that we're in a mess. We can see it, feel it — and how it hurts! Figures? We can't even quote an exact figure of how much our foreign debts have gone up. All we know is that we have been borrowing and borrowing to the tune of millions of dollars. And we don't even know if we are told the truth of how much really's our actual obligation.

POLITICALLY

AND THE political situation. It couldn't be any worse. For it's terrible. A shame to our forefathers who never, in their wildest imagination, thought that such a situation can come to pass when peo-

ple's electoral rights are trampled upon — even subjected to mockery at the same time. Hence the people's loss of trust and confidence in their ability to really choose those who will govern them. The height of this disillusionment was made manifest in the last presidential election when the major opposition group boycotted the sham election.

SOCIALLY

ON THE social scene, a new — rather abnormal — sense of values has arisen. The crooks and the shrewd are being lionized, given the honors for being rich — the new yardstick for success. To be poor yet honorable is no longer the fad. To be filthy rich, no matter how you made it, is what counts. Unlike the social strata of old when the title "Don" was equated with honor, in our era the title is yours because you have fat bank books, wield a strong influence with the powers-that-be, and you are associated with the questionable but powerful (a status akin to that of the Mafia in America)

MORALLY AS TO MORALITY. this

needs not much of a dissertation.' On the matter of graft and corruption alone — to say nothing of sexual adventures of the high and the mighty in our government — this regime will pass with laurels of thorns. Will pass with laurels of thorns gusted people. It is in fact on the basis of the breakdown of morality under the Marcos era that all the economic, political, and social shenanigans have taken root.

A REALITY

YES, OUR moral decadence is now a reality. And neither Mr. Marcos and company nor the fragmented opposition leaders of the country could do something about it. After the leaders had failed, perhaps it is now time for the people themselves to act — in order to save themselves, and this rotten republic. We all know now the effect of being truant and destitute of principles. Must we all go on being so —

from leader to followers? Or must we now face up to the reality that we erred, and it is now time — even if long overdue — to try to correct the errors of the past, especially the more egregious blunders of our leaders?

REFORM

REFORM. That's the word. And we should live by it — if we want to save this republic and this nation from further plunging into the abyss of doom. But there are only a few of us. Do you think we can change the course of this country's destiny when we are only so few in numbers? That's just the point. We have all succumbed to the temptation of following what the majority had been doing wrongly. What we should have done was insist on doing what was right — not what was convenient and fashionable.

CSO: 4220/575

SECURITY DRIVE INTENSIFIED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Apr 82 p. 36

[Text]

The Constabulary/Integrated National Police has vowed to undertake more intensified security operations to neutralize internal security threats and maintain law and order throughout the country.

In a command conference presided over by Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, PC chief and INP director general, yesterday at Camp Crame, the PC/INP hierarchy said the intensified security operations would be undertaken in support of or in conjunction with development activities at the national, regional and provincial levels.

These security operations, the PC/INP said, are premised on the idea that the answer to the problem of insurgency lies in the political, social and economic development of the country which can only take place under a climate of peace and stability.

General Ramos said that the PC/INP security operations, are in implementation of operational guidelines promulgated by General Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief of staff and are geared to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Development and maintenance of popular support for the government;

2. Neutralization of insurgent forces, particularly the CPP/NPA, and prevention of their further expansion to unaffected sectors of society and areas of the country;

3. Neutralization of the remaining secessionist forces of the Mt. National Liberation Front in the south and prevention of their expansion outside of the affected areas; and

4. Prevention of the escalation of the crime situation in the country to unreasonable levels.

In the conduct of security operations, the PC chief said, that home defense, civil relations and civic action activities would be employed by the PC/INP as a major weapon in consideration of the need to generate and maintain popular support of the population.

Ramos added that the main thrust of these security operations will be to win the "hearts and minds" of the people in support of the goals and aspirations of the national leadership.

PHILIPPINES

CORRUPTION RETURNS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Apr 82 p 20

[Article by Rodolfo Romero: "Resurgence of Corruption"]

[Text]

IN September it will be ten years since President Marcos issued Proclamation No. 1081 placing this country under martial law, and with the passage of the years the memories of the time immediately following the issuance of the proclamation have, for many, begun to fade. One memory, however, remains clear a decade later. This has to do with the quality of the bureaucracy.

Martial law by its very nature is associated with fear, and in the wake of Proclamation No. 1081 our corruption-riddled bureaucracy, along with the rest of the community, became fearful of a Chief Executive apparently bent on cleaning out the bureaucracy and getting rid of those civil servants who had in one way or another betrayed the public trust. The climate of fear that swept the bureaucracy was heightened by the issuance of a Presidential Letter of Instructions ordering the offices of the government to immediately separate from the public service all those who were shown by their service records to be "notoriously undesirable," a catchall phrase intended to cover moral turpitude, chronic absenteeism, repeated dereliction of duty and all the rest. A good many government employes with records conforming to the criteria of notorious undesirability were thrown out of the service, and given the climate of fear then prevailing, these went, in the majority of instances, without raising a legal challenge to their dismissal.

TOGETHER, the dismissals and the environment of fear gave rise to a perceptibly sharp improvement in the quality of the bureaucracy. In the uncertain, fear-filled days of

late 1972 and the immediately following period, all that one had to do to get good performance out of a civil servant who was not doing his job well or was going about it in a manner suggesting a desire to be bribed was to threaten him with being reported to the authorities. Civil servants who processed one's papers very slowly now found that they could process papers more rapidly. Those who are once were surly and rude now discovered that they could be nice and accommodating to the public. Those who were venal now found themselves able to do their jobs with much-reduced or no greater money.

The business community was delighted with the change. Whereas prior to martial law they were at the receiving end of the rudeness and the importunings of the bad elements of the bureaucracy, businessmen now found themselves able to exact good civil-service performance. With the bureaucrats in fear of having their shenanigans reported to the authorities, the business community discovered that it now had leverage. Clearly, this, to the business community, indeed to all sectors of Philippine society, was the positive aspect of martial law.

HAS the improvement in the quality of the civil service persisted? Of course not. As soon as it became clear to the bad civil servants that martial law was not going to be toughly implemented, they went back to their old ways. President Marcos said that Philippine martial law was going to be a smiling martial law and they took him at his word. The quality of the public service began to deteriorate; with the lifting of martial law the rate of the deterioration accelerated.

Today, corruption is back in the civil service, and with a vengeance. All that one has to do to try and establish the truth of this statement is to open any of today's newspapers. It's all there — the extortions, the misappropriations, the padding, the kickbacks, the connivance, the under-the-table dealing, the ghost deliveries, etc. Corruption seems to be all over the place now; no government office appears to be without it any longer. Just how bad the situation has become was described by Vicente T. Paterno in his valedictory as Minister of Public Highways two years ago.

Is the situation bad? It is, particularly from the economic standpoint. Investment sentiment and production activity are adversely affected when corruption becomes as widespread as it has. Can the situation be corrected? It can, but, only by action of the most determined and most consistent kind by this nation's Chief Executive.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS GAP WIDENS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 23 Apr 82 pp 11, 13

[Article by George T. Nervez]

[Text]

THE country suffered major setbacks in its foreign exchange transactions during the first three months this year with the balance of payments (BOP) and the merchandise trade account showing huge deficits of \$539 million and \$639 million, respectively.

The Central Bank said that both trade and BOP deficits during the first quarter this year were significantly higher than those registered in the same period last year.

The CB blamed the huge trade and BOP deficits to a drop in exports and higher cost of imports. In particular, the country was forced to buy higher priced imported oil under existing contracts with foreign suppliers even though the market prices have gone down.

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IN A related development, the foreign exchange guiding rate of the peso to the United States dollar rose to a record P8.385 yesterday from P8.378 the other day, indicating more demand for the US currency and pressure on the peso.

The previous high was P8.38 to the US dollar registered over a month ago.

According to the CB, the \$539-million BOP deficit in the first quarter was substantially higher than the shortfall of \$179 million one year ago.

The country suffered a double squeeze as export earnings dropped by \$243 million while imports shot up by \$84 million, the CB said.

Another factor that contributed to the BOP deficit was the drop in net inflows of long-term loans as business postponed new borrowings for expansion or new investments in productive activities.

IN THE merchandise trade account, a trade deficit of \$639 million was recorded for the quarter against a deficit of \$312 million posted for the same quarter in 1981.

Import payments went up slightly to \$1,982 million from the comparative \$1,898 million last year, while export receipts dropped to \$1,343 million from \$1,586 million.

Earnings from sugar went down to \$71 million from \$318 million in the first quarter of 1981, as foreign buyers with firm contracts to purchase Philippine sugar postponed taking deliveries owing to prevailing low prices for this commodity, the CB said.

Earnings from sugar exports, however, are expected to rise within this year, as foreign buyers are bound to take deliveries when the contractual period for taking stock of the commodity arrives, it added.

Earnings from coconuts and its by-products were also down, the CB said.

Exports of bananas, tobacco and non-traditional products improved. Export earnings from non-traditional products also rose to \$571 million from \$520 million during the first quarter of 1981.

Another major import bill consisted of payments for capital goods amounting to \$579 million. This was lower than the \$708 million recorded for the first quarter of 1981.

THERE was a small deficit in the non-merchandise trade account and in the non-monetary capital account while surpluses were recorded in the inflow of long-term loans and direct investments.

Net inflows from long-term loans reached \$143 million, which was lower than the \$308 million recorded last year mainly because prospective borrowers postponed their borrowings.

A net inflow of \$60 million was recorded for direct foreign investments. This was lower than the \$91 million recorded last year, as foreign investors apparently preferred to ride out the current protracted recession before making new commitments.

CSO: 4220/574

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AFFECTED BY ENERGY COSTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 29 Apr 82 p 20

[Article by Loreto Cabanes]

[Text]

The energy sector survey for the Philippines done jointly by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank foresees no major relief from the energy pressure on the country's balance of payments position within the next few years.

"If anything, the pressure may increase slightly," the survey report released recently said.

However, it was quick to point out that while unlikely to improve, the outlook in the balance of payments of the country, taking into consideration the huge drain from an annual oil bill of \$2.5 billion, is "not grim."

The Philippines, the report said, should be able to live with high bills for energy imports which world conditions have forced on many countries.

The Philippine economy, it added, will re-

quire "several more years" to adjust to the new facts of world energy scarcities.

At the request of the Philippine government, the WB and ADB sent a mission which visited the Philippines in April-May 1980 to conduct an energy sector survey to provide the government with an independent review of the country's energy prospects.

The report of the survey would also form the basis for future assistance by the two banks to the country's energy program which was originally a 10-year plan but which was subsequently compressed into five years.

The pressure of the oil import bill on the country's balance of payments position is such that it accounted for 42 per cent of the total imports and absorbed 57 per cent of export receipts in 1981.

The survey report noted that the main

objective of the energy program is to reduce the high dependence on imported petroleum which accounted for 92 per cent of commercial energy supplies in 1979.

Such an objective would be attained by limiting the growth of demand for oil-derived forms of energy and by developing domestic energy sources that can substitute for imported energy.

Nevertheless, the survey found that the amount of balance-of-payments relief achievable by 1990 through the development of domestic resources, while substantial, is much less promising than is suggested by the ten-year program.

The survey disagreed with projections of one to 20 million barrels domestic oil production by the end of this decade.

POPULATION GROWTH CONCERNS VIRATA

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 82 p 5

[Text]

Prime Minister Cesar E. A. Virata underscored the other day the need for a review of the government's population policy on the desired rate of growth and level of population.

He said that despite the progress of family planning programs, the country's population continues to grow at an alarming rate of 2.4 per cent a year.

The rural population increases at an even faster rate of four per cent annually, he added.

Virata said that by 1987, present resources and technology must be able to support some 56.8 million people, 75 million in the year 2000, and 115 million in 2020.

"Agricultural yield has to be maximized to feed the growing population. Food remains the first priority," Virata stressed.

According to him, there are 600,000 to 700,000 Filipinos entering the work force annually. Productive employment and better income-generating activities must be expanded to bring down the present underemployment rate of 15-20 per cent of the entire work force, he said.

"The multiplier effect of our present population growth will be felt in the future and it will take decades before our country can really stabilize its population size, despite the family planning programs being implemented today," Virata said.

Speaking before the National Federation of Women's Clubs, Virata problems confronting the economy.

said population growth is one of the many. [as published]

CSO: 4220/573

MORE REVIEW OF FOREIGN ASSISTED PROJECTS URGED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Apr 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Foreign-Assisted Projects"]

[Text]

THE spending cuts directed by the President include a "review" of foreign-assisted projects. The "review" should throw more light on the relationships among infrastructure requirements, the capacity to borrow, and the limits of government spending.

The ability to obtain foreign loans for infrastructure and to repay in easy installments are not, after all, controlling. The government must also be able to put up counterpart funds to take care of the peso costs of the projects.

If for one reason or another the government does not have adequate funds for the purpose, either the projects are stalled or the budgetary deficit balloons.

If work is temporarily stalled recovery of the investment already pumped into the projects is delayed and no economic benefits are derived from the projects in the meantime.

On the other hand, if a large deficit is allowed, there will be either a restriction of credit for the private sector or inflation.

These consequences along with a good forecast of the shape of the economy should be fully taken into account, for they represent forces that are more obdurate than the hearts of people who decide on extending loans to this country.

Less comfort is necessarily derived from estimates that foreign indebtedness is within the allowable limit set by law.

MARCOS MEETS WITH GENERALS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

PRESIDENT MARCOS will meet today with the General Military Council for the first in a series of meetings to assess the country's peace and order situation.

The President told newapen that the review would be comprehensive although the immediate concern is on the threats to the peaceful and orderly holding of the May 17 barangay elections.

"The matter of the barangay elections will be taken up. This is most urgent, although there is no serious threat to the elections," the President said.

He said he will get reports from field commanders about the dissidents planning to disrupt the holding of the village elections.

Asked about the New People's Army's reported plan to participate in the barangay elections, the President said there is no reason to worry because the government has an "emergent nationalist ideology" to pit against the NPA's."

CSO: 4220/574

CENTRAL BANK SEEKS WORLD BANK LOANS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 82 pp 9, 11

[Text]

THE Central Bank is seeking loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB).

The standby loan it is negotiating with the IMF is worth \$150 million and is designed to cover this year's balance-of-payments deficit of the country which is projected to be comparable to 1981's deficit of \$560 million.

For the first quarter alone this year, however, the country's payments deficit has reached \$539 million or sharply higher than last year's first-quarter deficit of \$179 million.

The loan CB is seeking from the World Bank is worth \$60 million and is exclusively designed to finance the government's Industrial Guarantee and Loan Fund (IGLF) program.

According to the CB, proceeds of the WB loans will be relent through accredited financial institutions to cottage, small-scale and medium-scale industries, which can include industrial, mining and agro-industrial activities.

The World Bank loan will be matched by counterpart fund from the national government amounting to the peso equivalent of \$40 million.

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LAYA said the first-quarter deficit was not alarming. "It is even less alarming if you consider what is happening to other countries," he added.

He attributed the deficit to any unfavorable international economic situation, and said if that did not improve in five to seven years then the situation would be alarming.

But indications were that the climate would improve either this year

or in 1982 and the Philippines would be able to outlast any economic difficulty until then, he said.

CB's negotiations with the World Bank started last April 19 in Washington, D.C.

Among the policy issues being taken up are the interest rates, spreads for financial institutions participating in the IGLF program, total asset base of eligible projects and increases in maximum loan sizes for each type of industry.

The CB noted that the reported increase in interest rates on end-users of IGLF loans, which is the World Bank's position, is still the subject of the on-going negotiations.

In 1981, IGLF loan releases amounted to P218 million, 66 percent more than the P131 million released in 1980.

PHILIPPINES GET WORLD BANK LOAN

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Apr 82 pp 9, 10

[Text]

WASHINGTON - The World Bank announced Thursday the approval of a \$157.4-million loan to the Philippines to support a program to restructure its textile industry.

The bank said the four-year, \$600-million program will help the industry lower costs, improve efficiency, and increase competitiveness.

The textile restructuring program is part of the government's effort to improve the growth of industry, expand employment, and develop industry outside the Metropolitan Manila area," the announcement said.

"A number of policy changes, including tariff reductions, import liberalization, export promotion and investment incentives, have been

initiated to help reach these objectives," it said.

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A MAJOR portion of the World Bank loan, or \$150 million will be channelled to individual textile projects through the Development Bank of the Philippines, a government-owned finance company. Projects to be assisted will involve the physical rehabilitation, modernization and expansion of spinning, weaving, knitting and finishing facilities.

The WB loan forms part of the \$500-million financing package prepared by the government for the modernization, expansion and rehabilitation of some 31 textile mills in the country.

CSO: 4220/574

PHILIPPINES

PACT SIGNED WITH MIDDLE EAST BANKS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] **PHILIPPINE** and Middle East banks have agreed to establish a reciprocal short-term deposit line up to \$515 million.

This agreement was reported yesterday to President Marcos by Central Bank Gov. Jaime Laya and representatives of the Middle East Banks who called on him in Malacanang.

Central Bank officials said the deposit line facility is basically an arrangement for both Middle East and the CB to mutually place their excess funds in money market placements with each other.

The deposit placements will be at market rates and are drawable for a maximum period of one year.

THE PRESIDENT expressed hope that the short-term deposit line facility will be mutually beneficial and assured his personal support should there be any problem in its operation.

According to Laya, the arrangement is the first of its kind to be established between the Philippines and the Middle East.

The operating arrangement, Laya said, is similar to those which are in effect between the Philippines and

banking institutions in the United States and in Europe.

THE BANKING representatives who called on the President were:

M. Attaullah, vice president-general manager of the Kuwait International Finance; Sharqat Bokhari, manager, Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Bahrain); Mohammed Al Baldawi, manager, Union de Banc Arabes et Francaises (Bahrain); Alessandro Pallavicinin, vice president, Saudi-American Bank (Jeddah); Robert Fansler, Southeast Asian representative, National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia; Ali Zafer and Omar Khan, representing the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd.

The 15 Middle East bank involved in this venture are:

National Commercial Bank, Riyadh Bank, Saudi American Bank Arab Bank Limited, Arab Banking Corporation, Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait, BCCI, Gulf International Bank, Kuwait Asia Bank, Union de Banc Arabes et Francaises, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait, The Bank of Kuwait & the Middle East, The Gulf Bank The National Bank of Kuwait and National Bank of Abu Dhabi.

NEW LABOR BILL TO BE AIRED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Apr 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Public Hearings on New Labor Bill"]

[Text]

IN THE FACE of a continuing unrest on the labor front and heightening labor-management confrontation in many firms, President Marcos the other day expressed his desire to have a full airing of a new labor bill in public Cabinet hearings.

Cabinet Bill 49, to be taken up in a special Batasang Pambansa session on May 19, aims to remove vague provisions in the Labor Code to "protect the interests of labor while insuring industrial peace and stability."

It appears that vague provisions in the labor law have been taken advantage of by the more unscrupulous members of both the labor and management sectors, creating in the process more causes for tension and misunderstanding between labor and management.

There are at least three new provisions in the proposed labor law which deal with the more critical areas in labor-management relations. One is the possible expansion of the list of critical industries where strikes and lockouts won't be allowed. Another is the resolution of questions of jurisdiction over illegal strikes and the power of the labor minister to certify labor cases for compulsory arbitration. And the third is the clarification of the 13th-month-pay issue.

No doubt, these provisions can either bridge or further widen the crack between management and labor depending on how they are shaped. The first provision is a potentially explosive one since workers to be affected would naturally dislike the idea of not being allowed by law to strike.

The other two provisions should likewise be approached with care and caution since they directly relate to the rights enjoyed by the workers. Even a slight misinterpretation of the provisions could cause the proposed labor law to lose credence and acceptance by all sectors involved.

In many firms today, management and labor are accusing each other of insincerity. While management claims that some strikes are intended to stop economic activity, labor, on the other hand, charges management with union-busting and other arbitrary

actions to silence the laborers. Compounding the problem is the charge of discrimination and dishonesty on the part of some labor arbiters and officials.

It seems that the government is resorting to all possible means to balance the interests of both labor and management to bring about the easing of tensions on the labor front. We hope the public hearings will bring out all the arguments — for and against the provisions — and help bring about a new labor law more conducive to industrial peace and harmonious labor-management relations.

CSO: 4220/574

SAMAR MILITARY CHECKPOINTS CLOSED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 82 p 23

[Article by Romeo S. Movid]

[Text]

CATBALOGAN, Samar — Col. Sabas Imbong, Samar PC commander, has removed all military checkpoints in this province to signal the return of normalcy in this once dissidents-infested province.

Motorists hailed the removal of the checkpoints which were becoming an "eyesore" to tourists visiting the different towns and causing inconvenience to commuters.

Imbong disclosed the saturation peace and order campaign launched by the combined elements of the Army and PC had wiped out hard-core subversive elements operating in several localities.

He gave credit to the efforts made by Gen.

Salvador Mison of the Eastern command and Gen. Cesar Villarin, 8th PC regional commander, for the successful drive to rid this province of NPAs.

Imbong said the sincerity of the civil government to serve the people is necessary to preserve the gains made by the military in the battle field.

The Tacloban news media whose members commute regularly to various parts of this province commended Imbong for eliminating the checkpoints for the convenience of the traveling public.

Lulu Palencia, press club president, said the move made by the provincial commander is laudable but the secur-

ity of the people should always be considered that traveling the highway of Samar is now safe.

She said ambushes have occurred in the past along the road and many casualties were inflicted on innocent civilians who happened to be riding in vehicles ambushed by dissidents.

Meanwhile, Lt. Col. Abraham Domingo, former 60th PC brigade commander, was designated new PC commander for Northern Samar.

A battle-tested field commander, he has an impressive record in the military service. He is noted for personally leading raids against subversive groups.

CSO: 4220/573

NPA BENEFITS FROM SAMAR POVERTY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 82 p 23

[Article by Ruben Oliver Ensoy]

[Text]

The main reason why the NPAs are gaining headway in Samar is the poverty of the Samareños, said former Sen. Decoruso Rosales of Calbayog city, now UNIDO regional chairman for Eastern Visayas, in a recent interview.

"People in desperate situation will believe in almost anything," Rosales said, "and the NPAs are experts in mass persuasion. That's why they have plenty of supporters and sympathizers in Samar, especially among the poor and illiterate farmers in the hinterlands. But for all the destruction and misery wrought by the NPAs in Samar, they do have some valid grounds for dissenting with the government because Samar is the most neglected major island in the country today and its people the most depressed, despite some very powerful Samareños in the government and the proximity of the island to

the province of the First Lady. In fact, Mindanao gets better treatment than Samar," the former senator bewailed.

According to lawyer Aurelio Menson, president of the Leyte chapter of the IBP who was also present during the interview, the poorest province in Samar is Eastern Samar. "So poor is the province that, despite the vaunted infrastructure program of the government, there is not a single kilometer of concrete road in Eastern Samar outside of the poblaciones and some barrios," he averred.

Following are some significant facts about the province as enumerated by Menson: It is the third biggest province in the region and has the fourth biggest population, but it has actually the least number in population density with only 73.51 persons per square kilometer in 1980 because of the high migration rate of young people in search of a better future elsewhere.

Its agricultural area is the third biggest in the

region but it has the least rice production because of the ignorance of the farmers in modern farming techniques.

Citing the Eastern Visayas Regional Institute of the Nacida, Menson said that there were only seven viable cottage industries in 1979, while the number of marketing establishments were only 184, the least in the region. That's why it has the lowest BIR collection in the region.

"Government neglect is a very ordinary thing in Eastern Samar," said Genadio A. Adena, zone chairman of the UNIDO in Eastern Samar and former correspondent of the Manila Times, who was also present in the press interview. "There's a bridge in Can-avid which is notorious for being the longest bridge in the world even though it's only some 200 meters long because it took 17 years to finish the construction, and only because the people raised a loud howl over the shameless delay."

"There's another bridge in Barangay Carolina of Can-avid which was financed by the World Bank at P4-million according to information supplied by Minister Roto

earlier," he continued. "Work started in early 1978, but it was stopped last year after only 20 per cent of the bridge was completed reportedly because there is no more money."

"And there's the supposed farm-to-market road in Canavid costing P130,000," he said. "But people are afraid that it is only a farm-to-pocket road because it is said to have been reported as completed even though only 400 meters have been finished."

But if people in Eastern

Samar generally are suffering from acute lack of infrastructure, Menzon said, Samareños living in the northern part of the province, particularly in the towns of Maaslog, Jipapad, Arteche, San Policarpo, including the towns of Laping, Gamay, Mapanas, and Palapag, all of Northern Samar, are virtually isolated most of the time because of the absence of roads. A road from Laping to Jipapad was constructed by the military engineering battalion stationed in the area, but work stopped after only four kilometers were

finished for reasons the . . . between government troops and the NPAs.

The coastal towns of Arteche, San Policarpo, Laping, Gamay, Mapanas, and Palapag keep in touch with each other and the outside world by pumpboats, the only means of transportation in the area. But when the amihan wind blows from August to January, the sea becomes very rough and no pumpboat would dare go out to the sea. So the natives have to travel by foot in going from one town to another. But sometimes, they are caught in the crossfire be-

"The government should recapture the loyalty of the people in the area before they are completely won over by the NPAs," Menzon said, who is a native of Laping. "Right now there's extreme misery in Laping and neighboring towns as a result of typhoon 'Dinang' last December."

Menzon said, "the government must stop first all military abuses, about 95 per cent of which are not reported to the mass media or even to military commanders.

CSO: 4220/573

WATER CONSERVANCY PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 82 p 24

[Text]

Construction of the Magat River multi-purpose project, the biggest infrastructure undertaking ever built by the government, is now nearing completion.

Started in 1977, the project is a complex of dam, irrigation and power facilities. It will be completed this October, ahead of the original completion target of December 1983.

Total cost of the mammoth project was estimated at P4.5 billion. It consists of a 114-meter main dam, a 500-meter spillway, a 45-square kilometer reservoir with a storage capacity for 1.25 billion cubic meters of water, two diversion tunnels, and a powerhouse.

It was financed by the government and the World Bank which lent \$150 million.

The government agency which is implementing the Magat project is the national irrigation administration.

The contractor is the Hydro Resources Corporation, a consortium of Filipino construction firms, that also built the Pantabangan Dam.

First stage of the implementation of the Magat project consisted of the upgrading and rehabilitation of two existing national irrigation systems covering an area of 55,342 hectares and will generate new areas totalling 23,400 hectares.

The second stage consisted of the construction of a storage dam and a power plant with an installed

capacity of 360 megawatts, the development of irrigation facilities and the upgrading of existing systems to cover nine municipalities in Isabela.

The last stage consists purely of the irrigation component.

Upon completion, the project will provide water supply for year-round irrigation to 102,000 hectares of agricultural land in Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Ifugao.

Rice production is expected to increase to 4.2 tons per hectare annually from the present 2.1 tons per hectare from rain-fed one-crop a year farms.

A total of 540 megawatts (360 MW installed capacity plus additional capacity of 180 MW) of hydroelectric power will provide electricity to the over one million residents of Northern Luzon.

Excess power will be diverted to the Luzon grid to meet increasing requirements of Central Luzon and Metro Manila.

The \$150 million loan provided by the WB financed the civil works, technical assistance, equipment and materials.

In addition, the government raised \$9 million from Bahrain through the sale of government bonds.

A counterpart funding from the national government provided the rest of the cost of the Magat project.

MNLF TO USE FOREIGN JOURNALISTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Apr 82 pp 1, 8

[Text]

ZAMBOANGA CITY, April 25 - The AFP Southern Command said today it has uncovered a plot of the Moro National Liberation Front to launch a propaganda campaign, using foreign journalists to sow hate and distrust between Muslims and Christians in the South.

Maj. Gen. Delfin Castro, Southern chief, said three foreign mediamen, including a television cameraman, were seen in Sumisip, Basilan late last week in the company of a Syrian-trained MNLF commander. Sumisip is one of the few remaining MNLF strongholds in Western Mindanao.

Castro said the three foreign journalists, who come from a Middle East country, entered through the southern backdoor.

THE SOUTHCORPS chief also disclosed the seizure of letters,

allegedly circulated by MNLF members under Nur Misuari, addressed to different Muslim communities in Mindanao.

The letters, supposedly signed by a Christian Ilaga commander, threaten all Filipino Muslims with liquidation if they do not have themselves converted to Christianity.

"It is obvious that Misuari is trying to revive the issue of jihad or religious war as his rallying point among ignorant Filipino Muslims," Castro said.

He said the present propaganda campaign of the MNLF in the South jibes with recent military findings which showed that Misuari had forged an agreement with the New People's Army in Mindanao for a more concerted anti-government campaign.

CSO: 4220/574

IRANIAN DEATH SQUADS OPERATE IN MANILA

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 25 Apr 82 p 6

[Text]

An Iranian student whose name is withheld for his protection confirms a report that appeared in this space last April 15 on the presence of an Iranian "death squad" here. He further names 32

countrymen enrolled at the Araneta university, Manuel Luis Queson university, de Ocampo Memorial colleges, University of Manila, National university and Ortigas university, as members of the so-called liquidation team. His letter follows:

"Whoever your informant was, he was right. There is a 'death squad' operating in Metro Manila. However, it is not between 'pro-Khomeini' and 'anti-Khomeini' groups. Of the 1,500 Iranian students here, only about 5 per cent are probably 'anti-Khomeini' and 15 per cent 'pro-Khomeini.' The rest, like myself, are neutral. We are apolitical. We care here to obtain an education. The problem started when we demonstrated against our Embassy's charge d'affaires who was quoted in Iranian newspapers that Philippine schools are not good. He said professors in the Philippines can be bought. That diplomas can be bought. That everyone, even policemen can be bought. We feared that if we return to Iran we will not be employed. So we demonstrated.

"Those who took part in the demonstration were blacklisted by the

embassy and a so-called Islamic Guards unit ('death squad') was created. We were harassed — many were stabbed and Shahrok Misaghi was killed on Dec. 14, 1981. The mourners bringing his body to the Manila International airport were maimed by grenades and 'Molotov cocktails' thrown by Islamic Guardsmen. Between April 12 and 16, many Iranian students were stabbed or beaten up at the bureau of immigration and at the Ministry of Education and Culture. The leader (name likewise withheld) was seen talking with some immigration employees while his men were beating an Iranian student. I am sorry to say that no one helped the victims of the beating.

"I do not know if your military knows that ... (name also withheld) spoke over Mindanao radio telling Muslim Filipinos that the Iranian constitution calls for the exportation of Islamic revolution to other countries. He and other members of the Islamic Guards have connections with the Moro National Liberation Front. The 'death squad' members get their guns, grenades and other weapons from Filipino Muslims while the MNLF receive financial support from the 'Islamic Guards.' Attached is a list of the names of members of the 'death squads' so your authorities may do something about them. We, I must repeat, are apolitical. We do not want to be caught in the fighting. We do not want to be stabbed or killed. We have not interfered with domestic affairs here. We just want to be left alone to pursue our studies."

EEC, PHILIPPINES TEXTILE AGREEMENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 82 p 26

[Text]

Textile negotiators from the European Economic Community (EEC) arrived during the weekend to begin renegotiation of the 5-year (1978-1982) textile agreement between the EEC and the Philippines that is due to expire at the end of this year.

The four-man EEC delegation is headed by Dr. Horst Krenzler, EEC's Special Representative for textile negotiations.

They are scheduled to meet with a Philippine panel headed by Finance Deputy Minister Alfredo Pio De Roda, Jr. and Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Vicente Valdez, Jr. for two days of official talks beginning today. The EEC delegation will also call on Trade and Industry Minister

Roberto V. Ongpin.

At stake at this negotiation will be the future of the country's textile and garments exports to the EEC over the next four or five years which, in 1981, reached a total value of almost \$200 million.

At present, the Philippine textile and garment industry is in difficulties. The industry, which employs about 500,000 regular workers, with 500,000 more as independent subcontractors for established factories, is now faced with ever growing restrictions and slack demand abroad, and is being forced to lay off thousands of workers resulting in labor disturbances.

Some factories have slowed down or completely ceased operations. These considerations will certainly

have a direct bearing on the position that Philippine textile negotiators will take during the renegotiation of the agreement.

Last December, after a series of hard and long drawn negotiations, the principal textile importing and exporting countries in the world, agreed in Geneva to extend the Multi-Fiber Arrangement (MFA) for the second time until July, 1986.

The MFA is the overall framework which governs the trade in textile products of the world's major textile exporters and importers. Last year, about 80 per cent of the world's \$40 billion trade in textile products were accounted for by MFA signatories which include the EEC, US and the Philippines, among others.

CSO: 4220/573

NEW INCENTIVES PROPOSED FOR OIL SEARCH

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 29 Apr 82 p 20

[Article by Rey Enano]

[Text]

A package of new incentives directed to spur oil exploration in the country has already been submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

Energy Minister Geronimo Z. Velasco disclosed that he has forwarded to Prime Minister Cesar E.A. Virata the set of new incentives in the face of a slowdown in the local search for oil and the growing competition posed by Indonesia and China.

Because China and Indonesia have been drawing out prospective exploration companies from the Philippines, he said additional incentives would have to be granted in the search for domestic oil.

The energy minister said that the Philippines faces stiff competition from China when Chinese officials opened up 500,000

square kilometers of its offshore areas for exploration to alien firms.

"We have to continue the momentum in oil exploration," Velasco said in referring to an earlier period when a big number of exploration firms joined the country's search for oil.

Recession, too, according to Velasco, has affected the pace of exploration in the Philippines since the budget of exploration firms has been getting smaller. Lesser wells, Velasco said, are now being drilled for the same amount of money the firms sunk in the early years.

He noted that the set of new incentives would be intended to generate further interest in offshore areas as well as in deeper waters.

PAP members have asked the government to revert to the 60-to-

40 ratio oil production arrangement in favor of the government from the present ratio of 65-to-35. Moreover, the companies have been asking for lesser commitments in the drilling of wells as featured in service contract. Firms are mandated to drill three wells for two years in the service contract granted to them by the bureau of energy development.

The restoration of the Filipino participation incentive allowance (FPIA) scheme is also being sought where Filipino partners used to enjoy an additional percentage from oil production.

With exploration costs skyrocketing coupled with the risks involved in such activity, the firms have likewise asked the government to reduce expenses in exploration through a different approach in cost recovery.

CORN SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM RENEWED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 13 Apr 82 pp 5, 11

[Article by Elma C Cinco]

[Text] The government's effort to achieve self-sufficiency in corn, the staple food of eight million corn-eating Filipinos, is getting another breakthrough this year with the implementation nationwide of the Maisagana program.

Central Visayas' participation in the Maisagana program will have the province of Cebu as one of the 37 provinces in the country that will initially plant Maisagana seeds. Six municipalities in Cebu, namely Bantayan island, Madridejos, Santa Fe, Daanbantayan, Bogo, and Medellin, which are generally rice deficit areas, will start Phase I of the program with more than 300 hectares each, or a total of 2,000 hectares for the province. For impact to show the difference, half of the total hectarage will be planted with ordinary corn seeds while the other half will be planted with Maisagana seeds. This will be done simultaneously during the planting season.

Considered as an expanded concept of the Masaganang Maisan program initiated five years ago, the Maisagana program aims to double the production of yellow corn for human consumption primarily and for starch manufacture and animal feeds secondarily. Ordinary corn production is 70 cavans per hectare, at most.

Under the program, 37 provinces in the country located in southern and central Mindanao and the Visayas regions with an aggregate area of 210,000 hectares will be planted with the DMR-2 corn variety. The government is pouring some 10 million pesos into the program, out of which Maisagana farmers can secure loans up to P1,000 per hectare from the PNB and rural banks.

However, not all corn farmers can obtain Maisagana loans. Only those under Masaganang Maisan whose repayment records are up to date and whose crops have successful harvest can avail of the Maisagana loans.

Corn farmers have something to look forward to in the Maisagana program in terms of income and productivity. For one, seeds which yielded more and a better quality of corn will be utilized. These are the downy mildew-resistant white corn variety.

Another is that more farm technicians will be fielded to assist them in their planting. Previously, one technician was available for every 100 farmers; under the new program the ratio is one technician per 50 farmers.

Under the Maisagana program, the farmers can also avail of bigger loans per hectarage of farm. In the old Maisan program only P600 per hectare is granted; in the new one, loans granted reach up to P1,000 per hectare.

With the launching of the program, already the corn seed producers are busy propagating the seeds of the DMR-2 variety for distribution to corn farmers. The corn seed nurseries at the Leyte Sab-a basin project and at Los Banos in Laguna will be turning out thousands of kilos of the certified seeds to be distributed to the 37 targetted provinces to be planted in time for the rainy season come May or June.

As soon as the six municipalities in Cebu undertaking the new Maisagana program are successful, the other municipalities will follow. Ultimately, the Maisagana program will become a sustaining program in substantial corn production, one that will augment the present Maisan program.

CSO: 4220/575

INCREASED COAL OUTPUT FORECAST

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Apr 82 p 9

[Text] This year's coal production will be increased three times over last year's 350,000 tons output in order to meet the requirements of cement factories with power plants converted into coal-fired, the National Coal Authority (NCA) said.

The NCA said the 22 coal mines in Cebu and one each in Semirara Island off Antique, Malangas in Zamboanga del Norte, Bislig in Surigao del Norte, Bataan and Polillo Island are capable of producing enough coal for the country's cement plants requirements.

Their production in the past had been controlled since coal losses its high thermal content when exposed to the elements for a long time, the NCA said.

The NCA said that last year's coal production was controlled so as to jive with the requirements of the cement industry.

This year's coal extraction could easily reach 1.2 million tons, it added.

MEANWHILE, another mine in Isabela is undergoing development and is expected to provide sufficient supply to meet the need of the cement industry.

Should there be a shortage, the NCA said, the Philippines has a standing agreement with Australia, to supplement the needed supply.

At present, only four of the 18 cement plants are coal-fired. These are the Apo Cement Corp., Universal Cement, Pacific Cement, all in Cebu, and the Banocan Cement in Baocan, La Union. Altogether the plants' requirements average 212 tons annually.

Eight other plants have been authorized by the Board of Investments to start their plant conversion into coal but their needs for coal supply will either be in the latter part of this year or early next year, the BOI said. (PNA)

NEW DELHI, April 26 India's sugar output in the first six months of the 1981-82 season, which started last October, totalled 5.99 million tons against 4.5 million in the same period last season, the Indian Sugar Mills Association said.

Total offtake until end-March was 2.35 million tons for internal consumption and 198,000 tons for exports, against 2.19 million for domestic consumption and 53,000 tons for exports in the same period last year.

It said factory stocks on March 31 were about 4.22 million tons against 2.9 million a year earlier.

CSO: 4220/574

PHILIPPINES

COPPER SMELTER EXPANSION STUDIED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Apr 82 p 9

[Text]

SELTROUST Engineering, a British firm, has been tapped by the Board of Investments (BOI) to prepare the feasibility study on the planned expansion of the \$250-million copper smelter project in Isabel, Leyte.

The Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining Corp. (PASAR) plans to double the existing 138,000 tons annual capacity of the smelter plant which is now being constructed by a Japanese consortium led by Marubeni Corp.

If the expansion pushes through, the country will be able to process two-thirds of existing copper production which at present is shipped to Japan for smelting.

The smelter's production will feed the copper fabrication plant, the Philippines' contribution to the ASEAN industrial projects.

THE smelter, which is partly owned by nine local mining companies, is expected to be operational by next year. According to plans, if the operations go on smoothly next year, PASAR will implement the expansion.

PASAR said the present design of the plant allows for an expansion.

Seltrust has also been commissioned by the government to study the ideal site for the copper fabrication project.

The sites being considered are Isabel, Leyte, where the smelter is situated; the industrial estate of Phividec Industrial Authority (PIA) in Northern Mindanao, and San Juan in Batangas.

CSO: 4220/574

MANILA SQUATTER PROBLEM GROWING

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Apr 82 p 4

"Perspective" column by Jesus C. Sison: "Our Growing Squatter Problem"]

[Text]

THE INVASION of Metro Manila by squatters is well on the way to victory. This may be alarming. But more than one-fourth or 25.5 percent of Metro Manila's total population are squatters. And they are still multiplying.

Of a total population of 4,443,684 in Metro Manila as of July, 1981, some 1,645,620 are squatters. There may even be more. It is no wonder one sees squatters almost everywhere.

While everybody thinks there are more squatters in Quezon City than anywhere else in Metro Manila, this is not true. The greatest number of squatters are in Manila with 545,496 or 31.48 percent of its population followed by Quezon City - 371,904 or 28.68 percent; Caloocan City - 130,080 or 26.40 percent; Makati - 81,612 or 14.95 percent; Pasay City - 76,902 or 26.08 percent; Mandaluyong - 63,570 or 22.01 percent; Navotas - 56,028 or 43.32 percent; Taguig - 49,614 or 36.95 percent; Malabon - 48,888 or 20.28 percent; Muntinlupa - 39,594 or 33.90 percent; Pasig - 37,698 or 12.18 percent; Paranaque - 36,180 or 23.05 percent; Marikina - 32,484 or 15.83 percent; Las Piñas - 29,592 or 29.98 percent; San Juan - 21,972 or 12.42 percent; Valenzuela - 21,060 or 11.64 percent; and Pateros - 2,946 or 6.51 percent.

The above mentioned figures were compiled by the local government units in Metro Manila and submitted to the Ministry of Local Government and the National Housing Authority. In terms of numbers, the squatters are already a huge problem. They have created social, economic, and health difficulties and dangers that affect all the people of Metro Manila.

Despite the enormity of the problem, there is not one single government agency which has been

assigned to deal with the squatter issue. Several agencies and the local governments concerned are independently pursuing their own programs. Some politicians abet them. As a result, the problem has become almost unmanageable. Let us face it. The squatters have increased and have become bolder because they have been tolerated, in some instances even pampered.

Several times in the recent past, there were attempts to demolish illegally constructed squatters' shanties in certain areas. But the attempts were all in vain as the squatters refused to budge and set up barricades. They defied and fought the duly-constituted authorities who were sent to evict and relocate them. When these acts of defiance were shown on television, it was a spectacle to see government police and military authorities backing out from the menacing squatters. It was a comic sight to behold government law enforcers seemingly incapable of enforcing law and order.

This open defiance by the squatters may encourage others to follow and graver problems in peace and order could ensue. The governments should be uncompromising and unbending with the squatters as it is with others who break the law.

The squatters are not to be indicted for what they are. Most of them are victims of unwanted circumstances, of poverty and lack of education. But, then, ignorance and poverty are no excuse to do whatever one wants to do at the expense of law-abiding and hard-working citizens.

The truth is that the squatters have imperiled the health of the communities they live in. They exist in abject unhygienic conditions. They don't have toilets and they throw all their wastes, even their human wastes, into every available vacant

space of land attracting flies, rats, cockroaches and other pests and insects which are carriers of diseases. This plus the fact that the stinking smell of their wastes permeates the whole community makes the situation unbearable for other people.

In the past, there are attempts to relocate the squatters to Sapang Palay, Bulacan, Carmona, Cavite, and other areas. But, after some time, they cage back to their old haunts in even greater numbers. If they are to be relocated farther away from Metro Manila, they have to be provided with transportation, water, schools and other necessities. Above all, they should be afforded means of livelihood. Otherwise, they will keep coming back to Metro Manila where there are better, although bitter and cruel, opportunities.

Several landowners in Quezon City complained that some syndicates are making money on the squatter issue. They said that the syndicates, in cahoots with some government men and law enforcers, pinpoint vacant lands available for squatting for a fee. It is even said that rentals are being collected from some squatters.

The squatter problem can no longer be ignored. It has become like a disease outbreak that has reached epidemic proportions. It has spawned crimes and hoodlums, misery, sickness and death.

Social workers now consider squatting as a permanent fixture in modern society. Simply stated, squatting is an in-thing or a reality which all of us must face now a days.

If it must be so, some definite measures should be adopted and implemented to help the squatters live better lives, to safeguard the rights of the rightful owners of land, and to control the excesses of the squatters. A vacillating government policy will only encourage more squatters and generate more slums.

HIGHLAND TRIBES ASSURED OF GOVERNMENT AID

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Apr 82 p 8

[Text]

COTABATO CITY, April 26—Region XII lupong tagapagtagap-nap on poek (LTP) chairman Simson A. Datumanong has assured government assistance to highland tribes in Central Mindanao who are allegedly being eased out from their ancestral lands by Christian settlers, including members of the military.

Datumanong made the assurance before a group of Bilaan tribe leaders who called on him recently to air their protest against the alleged encroachment on their lands by settlers, mostly Visayans.

The tribal leaders, accompanied by Datu Joseph Sibug, Panaman consultant in Mindanao, told Datumanong that bureau of lands personnel surveyed the lands for the settlers for a fee.

Sibug, who is also president of the Mindanao Highlanders Association (Mindahila)

and vice mayor of Kidapawan, North Cotabato, informed Datumanong that 800 to 1,000 Bilaan families, most of them from hinterland barangays, are affected adversely by the settlement of Christians.

Datumanong created a special committee composed of personnel from the LTP, bureau of lands, bureau of forest development, and Central Mindanao command to visit the affected areas and look into the problems of the tribesmen.

The LTP chairman expressed his desire to have the ancestral lands, if these were already released by the government, subdivided among the highlanders to enable them to have permanent claim over the area.

The move, Datumanong said, is in keeping with President Marcos' program to improve the living condition of members of the cultural communities.

CSO: 4220/575

PRIME MINISTER VISITS SPRATLEYS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Apr 82 pp 1, 13

(Article by Rod Villa Jr.)

[Text]

KALAYAAN, South China Sea, April 26—Prime Minister Cesar E. A. Virata inspected military and naval fortifications on this strategically vital island group yesterday and said, "we will defend Kalayaan because it is ours."

"Any offensive action against Kalayaan will be considered an assault on the sovereignty of the republic," he said in affirming what he called "our constitutional and peaceful ownership" of the disputed islands.

He flew 435 nautical miles to Pagasa, biggest of six islands flying the Philippine flag, and found it bristling with .50 caliber machine guns, armored personnel carriers mounted with 105-millimeter cannons, and several planes.

A "spray of specks" 270 miles from Palawan and 310 miles to Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay, the islands rise five meters above sea level, with mangrove and "talisay" trees stunted by the humid heat. Their total land area is 90 hectares.

With Virata were Natu-

ral Resources Minister Teodoro Peña, Palawan Gov. Salvador Socrates who has civil jurisdiction over the place, Public Works Deputy Minister Aber Canlas, and 16 technical and security men.

Virata's Fokker Friendship plane was commanded by Col. Ciriaco Reconquista.

A flight of T-38 planes and F-8 jet fighters led by Major Phil J. Bacolod of the 5th fighter wing escorted the prime minister's flight.

"Admiral" Tomas Cloma laid the first claim over this island group in 1955. On July 11, 1978, the island group was made part of the Philippines through presidential decree No. 1596.

Kalayaan's strategic value as the Philippines' first line of defense has been enhanced by the discovery of oil between it and Palawan. Researches show that manganese, phosphate and other minerals may be present in and around the islands.

Commodore Gil Fernandez, head of the composite Western command, welcomed the Virata party. He said the Philippines has laid "effective, continuous, and uncontested occupation" of the islands since the President activated the command on May 12, 1976.

Virata was met with a 19-gun salute. He was welcomed by a company of Philippine marines, part of the battalion manning the island outposts under Col. A. Balbas.

Offshore stood the "RPS Lakandula," which serves as Fernandez's commandship.

Virata thanked the all-male Pagasa population for their "selflessness, sacrifice, and patriotism" in guarding the sovereignty of the country's farthest outposts.

He inspected a 20,000-gallon fresh water tank, the 150,000-meter runway, concrete bunkers with artillery and machineguns, amphibian craft, and other defense facilities.

The soldiers cheered a donation of sporting materials, chess kits, and magazines. They need them for the next seven months until they are relieved by another contingent.

CSO: 4220/575

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS AMNESTY FOR CPT

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 30 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Give Amnesty to the Communist Terrorists"]

[Text] Concerning the army's proposal to grant amnesty to communist terrorists on the occasion of the 200th Rattanakosin celebrations, a proposal that appeared in the news last week, it appears that this has the widespread support of people in various circles, including people in government and in parliament and even of people who once joined the Communist Party of Thailand and later left it. The reason that these people support this and feel that this is something good that the government should do is that this would help reduce or even stop the killing between Thais, which would be a wonderful thing.

Such granting of amnesty with political characteristics has been done before. During the administration of Mr Khuangaphaiwon, amnesty was granted to those involved in the Boradet rebellion. Field Marshal Phibun Songkhram granted amnesty to those involved in the "10 November" rebellion. And General Kriangsak Chamanan proposed a law to grant amnesty to those involved in the "26 March rebellion" and in the 6 October 1976 affair. The thing worth considering is that after amnesty is granted, the government will be praised for being democratic, and this will show the government's stability.

This proposal by the army is in fact another step forward in the "politics leads the military" policy in accord with Office of the Prime Minister order No 66/1980. But the special feature is that it is believed that this is an important political attack in the wake of the army's conclusion that, during the past 2 years, the government of General Prem Tinsulanon has constantly been the aggressor and the victor on both the political and military fronts. During this same period, the communists have become disorganized. Massive military suppression drives have been launched against them. Some elements have withdrawn from the armed fighting and have gone to live like good citizens in the cities.

Even though the implementation of Office of the Prime Minister Order No 66/1980 has resulted in the government side taking the offensive, especially politically, this does not mean that the government can be satisfied with the victories won and cease giving attention to carrying out things seriously in

accord with this policy. Speaking frankly, the victory of the government and of the "politics leads the military" policy depends on the government's ability to eliminate injustice in society and build a real democracy. If the government cannot reach these two goals, in the end this policy will expose the fact that the government is not serious about solving the problems. The castle of success that has taken shape may turn out to be a sand castle that collapses.

11943

TSO: 4207/84

COLUMNIST ADVOCATES LEGALIZING CPT

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 28 Mar 82 p 5

[Ta Mo Lo column: "Do You See an Opening?"]

[Text] Citing a high-level news source, the Friday, 26 March, edition of BAN MUANG revealed that a group of high-ranking army officers has discussed things and will propose that the government grant amnesty to the communist terrorists on the occasion of the 200th Rattanakosin celebrations.

Conditions: They must surrender between 4-20 April. After that, the government will crush them without any further consideration for them.

Actually, in practice, the government automatically pardoned those who surrendered. I feel that this is better than [formally] granting amnesty. That is, besides not punishing them, they are given help so that they can earn a living and become good citizens.

Thus, it makes little difference whether amnesty is granted or not. However, doing so may have some benefits on the mass front.

I am looking much farther than that. I would like to see the anticomunist laws torn up and have the communist party legalized just like other political parties.

Reasons

Concerning the communist suppression laws, these days the communists are not really affected by these laws. On the contrary, they benefit from them because the communist suppression laws exert pressure on the masses to join the communists.

The events of 6 October 1973 show this clearly. Fewer than half of the students who fled into the jungle and joined the communists were communists and many were not even socialists.

Farmers and other good citizens are being forced to flee into the jungle and become communists since these laws are the tools of government officials who are guilty of unjust behavior.

By analysing things from a neutral position, it can be seen that the present communist suppression laws have not suppressed the communists but have instead built up a mass [base] and united front for the communists.

That I think has had communist suppression laws since before the change of government in 1932, a period of more than 50 years. The laws have constantly been revised, and suppression operations have been carried on continually.

But we can see that the communists have continually expanded in number, both in the jungles and in the cities and from thatch huts in the jungle to first-class hotels in Bangkok.

It is time that we changed our method of fighting. We cannot stubbornly continue with the old way. The communist laws must be repealed, and the communists must be allowed to form a political party just like other political parties. We must fight them face to face.

Leaders are probably aware of the fact that the communists have entered the cities. And in high-ranking government circles, it is known who they are. But the role that they are playing is that of virtuous people since the communist laws bind them "hand and foot." But they have not stopped "breathing" communism even for a second.

The communist suppression laws have put us at a disadvantage both in the jungles and in the cities. If we permit them to form a political party and a communist party comes out and fights openly in accord with democratic political methods, the communist party will become too eager; it will be the side that is at disadvantage.

The People Are the Ones Who Will Decide

At the same time, those on the side of the nation, religion and monarchy, who have been destroying each other on the political and security fronts and who have been fighting each other for the profits, will become more aware when the enemy (the communists) appears in full view.

Fury Is Born When Danger Appears

There will be constructive fighting in accord with really democratic methods. The childish fights of the politicians and political parties will gradually cease, and these people will act like adults.

Allowing the communists to form a political party and play a political role in parliament is like inoculating people against cholera or smallpox.

It may be argued that this is not in accord with the constitution since the communists are opposed to the monarchy. It is here that they will have to accept our conditions. [People] can rest assured that the communists cannot do anything to our "king" because he is loved by the people.

will those in the jungle stop? No, they won't. But they will become weaker. The government has the legal right to suppress them since this is part of the country. It can punish the rebels. We will fight in the cities and jungles, the two battlefields. Our side will have the advantage because more and more people are siding with us.

If the communists are allowed to bring their party into parliament and fight there, I assure you that in 30 years the communist party will be very very small. This is because the parliamentary system will greatly weaken the CPT.

But if we continue to be so stubborn, we will gradually weaken. And we will not survive for another 50 years.

1193
100-4207/85

THAILAND

INTERRUPT INFLUENCES SAID TO JOIN CPT IN TERRORISM

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 27 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by Sara Nukunkit: "The Influential Groups In the Localities and Lieutenant General Han Linanon"]

[Text] Even though an army statement released by major General Wichit Bunyawat, the chief of the Civilian Affairs Department, and a government statement released by Mrs Wanida Chitman, the deputy spokesman, said that the bombing of the Surat Thani provincial civil administration headquarters building on Friday, 19 March, was the work of communist terrorists from Camp 508, on the morning of 20 March Lieutenant General Han Linanon, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, observed that this was carried out jointly by communist terrorists and local influential people. This was a rather specific statement.

According to the statement made by Lieutenant General Han, the aim of this action was that "they wanted to create turmoil so that I would have to give up my position because of my 'tai rom yen' policy."

The questions that should be discussed are: What is the situation of those groups that are called local influential groups? What has caused these groups to act as if they have formed a "united front" with the communists? And why are these local influential groups opposed to Lieutenant General Han being the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area?

The Southern Influential Groups, a Challenge of Han's From the Very Beginning

The influential groups in the south that have had a rather clear reaction to Lieutenant General Han's appointment as commanding general of the Fourth Army Area are located in two provinces.

The first place is Nakhon Sithammarat Province. In November 1981, just 1 month after Lieutenant General Han announced the "tai rom yen" policy and adjusted the Volunteer Defense Corps system in Muang District so that VDC members would stay within the regulations, with the important thing being the curtailment of their right to carry arms, VDC members reacted by announcing that they were turning in their cards. A news report from military circles stated that

the movement by VDC members was supported by an influential person in Nakhon Sithammarat who holds a rather high political position in the locality and who has economic interests in the area of influence of the communist terrorists.

The interesting thing is that the influential people in both Nakhon Sithammarat and Surat Thani all have special characteristics. First, they are merchants with interests in mining, timber and other important activities in the provinces. Second, these influential groups have definite political influence at the local level. Some are mayors and most are municipal councillors. Third, these influential people definitely have relations with national politicians. Some are the important "vote getters" and prime movers for some of the major parties.

Some of the influential people in Nakhon Sithammarat Province have even acted as the middlemen in getting communists of the rank of provincial committeeman to surrender to General Prem Tinsulanon directly.

The Influential People and the Communists: How Can They Cooperate?

The communists in the south are different from those in other areas in that they are really southern farmers, regardless of whether they became communists because of their ideals or because they were persecuted by government officials. There is a high degree of similarity in the thinking of the families, thinking that is called "localism." The relations between the communists and the influential people are based mainly on economic interests. This is because the areas of influence of the communists in the mountains are not just fertile forest and jungle areas. These areas are also rich in minerals such as tin. If a person looks at an aerial map, the map will clearly show an area of mountain ranges with veins of tin.

Most of the influential people in these areas are involved in timber and mining activities. Some are owners of mines and sawmills. These people were granted timber and mining concessions in the jungle and mountain areas where the communists have influence. In these areas of influence, while the government claims that it is trying to suppress [the communists], government forces are not stationed in the mountains. Rather, they are stationed in the villages in the plains and foothills. Thus, if the influential people want to engage in mining operations or cut timber in the mountains where they have concessions, they have to request permission from the communists who have established bases and who have influence there.

It is because of this that the influential people who own mines and sawmills must have contact with both government officials and the communists. The influential people want economic profits while the communists profit economically and they also have their political influence.

The important thing is that if the government can really implement the "tai tam pen" policy and the communists lack the influence to squeeze taxes from the mine owners and the owners of the sawmills who are involved in the timber business, relations between these two groups will implicitly come to an end.

elements with the influential groups and the Communist Terrorists, the Enemies of Lieutenant General Han Linanon

The fact that the influential groups in the localities are cooperating with the Communist terrorists in order to undermine the position of Lieutenant General Han Linanon clearly shows these people's dissatisfaction with Lieutenant General Han. Actually, because of their long term interests, these two groups ~~do~~ really cooperate with each other. The thing that should be discussed is that besides having a strong economic position, these influential groups also have political power and they have close relations with national politicians and local officials. Some of these people hold local political positions and their families have lived in the south for a long time.

The rumors in military circles that Lieutenant General Han may be transferred from the Fourth Army Area to the First Army Area and the various situations in the south that have been caused by the communist terrorists, "500 bandits" group and influential people have all assailed Lieutenant General Han Linanon directly. Carrying out his duties in accord with the principle of "politics leads the military," the things that Lieutenant General Han has had to do in the south, his birthplace, are definitely not as easy as they were in the northeast, where he achieved results.

As for the enemies of Lieutenant General Han Linanon this time, all people ~~know~~ will hope that Lieutenant General Han will be able to settle matters with them with as little loss of life as possible. And if Lieutenant General Han ~~knows~~ and is transferred, this will be proof, and another lesson, that ~~good intentions~~ intentions are not enough. He must have good methods too in order to unite the majority to really destroy the minority groups that are his enemies.

1144
Date: 4/17/84

PHATTHALUNG CPT CONDUCTS MOBILIZATION RALLY

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 29 Mar 82 pp 1,2,16

[Article: "[CPT] Asks to Protect the People In Place of the Government Officials, officials Warned to Watch Out"]

[Excerpts] Communist terrorists in Phatthalung boldly sent almost 100 men to mobilize the people. They announced that they were officials of the national liberation armed forces and that they would protect the people in place of the government officials. They also said that their forces are in place in the mountains from Nakhon Sithammarat to Trang and Phatthalung provinces. And they warned government officials to keep a good watch on the district headquarters building and the police stations. Otherwise, these places will be seized and burned. Officials have had to ask for forces to guard against such acts of terrorism. At the same time, a force of more than 100 traitors attacked with RPGs and seized and burned district headquarters buildings, barracks, conference halls and police stations, destroying a total of 12 buildings. The losses run into the tens of millions of baht. One police master sergeant was killed while fighting for his country and five other police officers were wounded.

A DAO SIAM reporter in Phatthalung Province reported that at 0400 hours yesterday, 28 March, approximately 70 armed communist terrorists under the leadership of Mr Wichien Prapram, or Mr Chien, came out and walked along the Pak Muang-Kham Ku highway in Seri Banphot Subdistrict, Phatthalung Province. As they walked along the road, they shouted that they were soldiers of the Thai People's Liberation Armed Forces. They said that they were out on patrol to protect the people in place of government officials, who do not give much attention to this, and that they will maintain peace for the people.

As this group of communist terrorists who called themselves members of the TPLAF walked along the road shouting like this, they also shouted out to tell Captain Atdasit Trisuwat, the Seri Banphot subdistrict officer, that he should ready officials to guard the district headquarters building and the provincial police station in Seri Banphot Subdistrict since, at present, their forces are in place in the mountains from Nakhon Sithammarat to Trang and Phatthalung provinces. [They said that] if these places are not guarded well, they will seize and burn them as they have done elsewhere.

At 1700 hours on the same day, Captain Atdasit reported this matter to Mr. Niphat Banphattra, the governor of Phatthalung Province, and to Police Colonel Muntion Saikhwan, the Phatthalung provincial police superintendent. Thus, military forces were requested from Lieutenant Colonel Kriangphon Chaibut, the commander of CK 54 stationed in Ban Khok Sung, and Colonel Channong Phairot, the commander of Civil-Police-Military Unit 41. It was asked that these forces be sent to help preserve the peace in Banphot Subdistrict and to help guard against possible acts of terrorism. The soldiers that were sent are from the Fourth Army, 5th Combined Regiment; they are ready to fight the communist terrorists in all forms.

11944

ref: 4207/85

BOONCHU'S EFFORTS TO UNITE SAP ANALYZED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Mar 82 p 7

[Thoughts From the News column by Prachuap: "The Problems of the Social Action Party"]

[Text] The special conference of the social Action Party that was held recently at the Indra Hotel was a very important and interesting political movement because the SAP is a major political party that has more members in the House of Representatives than any other political party. Thus, it can be said that any movements or changes in the SAP may have an effect on the government's administration of the country, regardless of whether it supports the government in conjunction with other political parties or opposes the government.

Concerning the purpose or aim of this conference held by the SAP, the important aspects can be summarized as follows: It was trying to find a way to solve the various problems in order to build unity in the party and to make preparations for the next general election, which will be held in April 1983. This will be the first election within a real political party system. That is, candidates will be compelled to belong to a political party and the number of candidates fielded by a political party must equal at least half the number of MPs to be elected in the election.

Besides this, there are also many other factors. For example, MPs will immediately lose their membership in the House of Representatives if they resign from the party to which they belong or if the party issues a resolution calling for their resignation [from the party]. Since the SAP still hopes to play a political role in the future, it must try to build unity within the party so that the people have faith in and support the party in the next election. Because if it cannot create order and discipline within the party or show that it is unified, it will be difficult to convince the people that it can solve the other problems facing the country.

This conference held by the SAP was attended by Mr Boochu Rotchanasathien, the former deputy leader of the party and deputy prime minister in the first government of General Prem Tinsulanon who resigned from his position as deputy party leader because he disagreed with the party deciding not to join the government and then turning around and issuing a new resolution to join the

from government. He was received very warmly by the party members, which shows that the members of the SAP still feel that Mr Boonchu is important to, or has special significance for, the party. It is believed that whenever the present leader of the party retires from politics, the next person to hold the position of party leader will probably be Mr Boonchu. Mr Boonchu is probably aware of this too.

However, after the recent resignation of Mr Boonchu from his position as deputy party leader, eight MPs who were members of the SAP together resigned from the party. They claimed that there were dissatisfied with how the party was being administered and that there was favoritism, with few of the members being allowed to play a part in carrying out party activities. In particular, they wanted the party's structure to be improved and they wanted new people in some of the important party positions.

By chance, all of those members of the SAP who resigned were close associates of Mr Boonchu or people whom he had supported in the last election. Thus, it is understood that, concerning the real reason behind their resignation from the party, if they did not do this on direct order from Mr Boonchu, then they did so because they wanted to take the opportunity when Mr Boonchu resigned as deputy party leader to create problems and disorder for the party since some of those who resigned were disappointed when their names were not put forward for cabinet positions.

For these reasons, when the SAP held its conference in order to find a way to create unity in the party and Mr Boonchu, who had resigned as deputy party leader, took part in the party conference instead of remaining indifferent or staying in seclusion and received a very warm welcome from most of the party members, there was talk about whether or not the eight members who had resigned would rejoin the party in order to restore unity and about whether or not most party members would welcome them back warmly as they did Mr Boonchu. This is difficult to say.

A news report that appeared in several newspapers stated that Mr Boonchu asked the eight members who had resigned to meet with him and that he had asked them to rejoin the party. But these eight members repeated that they will rejoin the party only after Mr Boonchu clears up things in the party in accord with their wishes. For example, Mr Kasem Sirisamphan, the minister of education, must step down from his position as secretary-general of the party and a new party executive committee must be elected.

Besides this, some members have stated that they are ready to rejoin the SAP if Mr Boonchu becomes party leader. But at present, they are not sure whether Ekkrit Pramot will really turn over this position to Mr Boonchu. Because if he will let Mr Boonchu become party leader, why does he have to wait until the conference in May?

When these eight members who resigned from the SAP were interviewed by reporters, they said that they will rejoin the party if the party agrees to act in accord with some of the conditions they have set. Otherwise, they will form a new

party. And they hinted that the name of the party would be similar to that of the AP, that is, they would name their party the People's Action Party. These people have asked Mr Boonchu how he will solve the problem. He has responded by saying that he has not supported these members in taking such action and that he has asked them not to form a new party. As for the problem of whether these members will rejoin the party or not, Mr Boonchu believes that all eight of these people are reasonable people and, therefore, he believes that they will listen to his reasons. The important thing is that this is the right time to rejoin the party because the party needs unity.

Chuan Phant, the leader of the SAP, responded to a reporter's question by saying that whether people join or leave the party is up to the majority of the party members; it is not up to the party leader alone to decide. At present, the party has more than 60 members in parliament and this should increase to 70-80 in the very near future.

Generally, if an MP wants to resign from the political party to which he belongs that is his right. There is no law or regulation prohibiting this. The only thing is that the constitution stipulates that if an MP resigns from the party, he must also give up his seat in the House of Representatives. This in effect prohibits MPs from resigning from the political party to which they belong. But all MPs have the right to resign from the party if they are ready to give up their seat in the House of Representatives.

Generally, the resignation of MPs from a political party means that there is a strong difference of opinion and the members who resigned believe that their way of thinking is correct and more in accord with the desires of the people in general than are the ideas or resolutions of the majority of party members. Stated directly, members who resign are usually confident that the people will support them in the next general election, even if they run for office in the name of another political party.

However, the fact that an MP was elected in the name of a particular political party means that the people elected him because they support the policies of that party or want the member who was elected to act in accord with or support his duties in accord with the policies of the party to which he belongs. Thus, when a party issues a resolution, the party members must accept it and act accordingly. Because that resolution represents the wishes of the majority of party members. If party members do not hold to this principle, then, if they do not agree with the party's resolutions, there will always be people resigning and the party will not be able to survive since in the long run there will not be any members left in the party.

The important thing is that when MPs resign from a political party, there should be a law to guarantee that this is in accord with the desires of the people. For this reason, some MPs may resign from a party in the form of selling themselves out of their vote while claiming that they are doing so in the interests of the people and country. If there is no temporary constitutional provision, that is, an act, that stipulates that MPs must give up their seat in parliament

after they resign from the party to which they belong, I suspect that there will still be MPs who will dare to resign from the political party that helped to get them elected to parliament.

I admit that the political party system presently in use in our country is still not orderly since no political parties law has been enacted for the general election in 1983. But even so some people have formed parties and tried candidates in the name of several parties, including the SAP. Concerning the fact that the eight members of the SAP resigned from the party by claiming that they did not agree with the administration of the party, this does not seem like a very good reason because this is something that they should have thought about carefully before they decided to run for election in the name of the party. The people may think that these people ran for election in the name of this party only in the hope of relying on the fame of the party and obtaining the financial support provided by the party for the election and not because they really believed in the ideals or policies of the party. Such an understanding is very dangerous for the political party system.

Another thing that surprises me is the fact that the MPs who resigned from the SAP, of whom there were only eight, set conditions for their return to the party, saying that they would rejoin the party only if the party apparatus was involved in accord with their wishes. This makes it seem like the other members of the party, of whom there are dozens, are of no value or significance to the party. If the SAP agrees to act in accord with the demands of these members, I think that the SAP will experience more disorder than disunity. Then the members of other groups may similarly make their own demands for requirements and leave the party if they do not get what they want. Or if these eight members succeed in getting the party to act in accord with their demands once, later on they will make other demands or set other conditions and this will never stop.

In my view, it can be said that the present period is a new start for the political party system of government. Thus, the political parties that intend to run candidates in the election and that hope to have the support of the people in the next general election so that they have many votes in parliament to administer the country in a democratic way should do things in a way that will help the people to have a correct understanding concerning the present and elections within the political party system. That is, besides allowing candidates to run for MPs, the parties must be ready to expell members who do not have ideals or discipline.

Therefore, people in general will think that the political parties are only a small groups of people who call themselves politicians and who use the political parties as tools in their search for power, positions and wealth. Considering such an understanding, besides the fact that this will force the people to become bored with and lose faith in the political party system, this will also create an opening for those people who have forces and ideas and who are waiting for the chance or time to take control of

the country without having to ask what the people want. They will be able to use this as an excuse to destroy the political party system and abolish elections easily, as has been done before.

11-43
1201-42/7/86

CHANGE IN POLITICAL PARTIES LAW DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Mar 82 p 7

(Thoughts From the News column by Prachuap: "Will It Be the MPs Or the People Who Choose the Parties?")

(Text) An advance story on the latest discussions to draft a revised constitution, discussions that were held by a special subcommittee of parliament last Thursday, revealed that, at present, discussions on all the revised articles have been completed. In particular, concerning the present body of MPs belonging to a political party, they have 90 days to join a political party starting from the day that the revised constitution is put into effect. This is instead of the 180 days as in the government's draft or the 30 days as in the MPs' draft.

Mr Chittiporn Arintrat, an MP from Bangkok who is the spokesman for the Special Subcommittee to Draft a Constitution, issued a statement concerning why the subcommittee had agreed to this time period when compared with the 180 days as proposed by the government and the 30 days as proposed in the draft put forward by the Social Action Party. That is, the time frame proposed by the government was too long while that proposed by the Social Action Party was too short. Thus, a time period of 90 days was stipulated. This will give the MPs sufficient time to make preparations. And it is in line with the registration of the political parties, which will be finished by this August.

Another important item that the subcommittee considered changing was the voting method. It has been stipulated that voting will be for groups, that is, one number, instead of voting for individual people as proposed in the government's draft. Concerning this matter, there was great disagreement in the subcommittee between those who are members of the Senate and those who are members of the House of Representatives. The latter group favored the idea of voting for individuals and requested that this matter be tabled in order to let parliament decide the issue.

The thing I find rather interesting is that these senators are all people who were chosen and appointed by the government. Concerning the fact that they asked to change the method of voting proposed in the government's draft, even if it is claimed that they were carrying out their duty freely and even if it is held that revising the constitution is not a policy concerned with

the Senate's instant work of the government, the fact that must not be forgotten is that the senators have less experience in election matters than do members of the House of Representatives. While those members of the subcommittee who did so may have had good intentions in asking for the change, it is better not to avoid the feeling that they had other intentions too.

However, the problem discussed above is one for parliament to decide and so there may be some changes. Thus, I will not discuss this any further. The point that I find interesting is that it has been stipulated that those who are now MPs must belong to a political party within 90 days after the promulgation of the revised constitution.

Concerning having MPs belong to a political party, it is my understanding that the purpose of this is to create discipline and order for the parliamentary system of government and not allow things to become disorganized because of MPs frequently switching parties. For example, MPs are elected in the name of one political party but they switch to another political party. Or a single person is elected as a member of several parties. This causes problems concerning the qualifications of the House of Representatives since it is not known for sure what the real wishes of the majority of the people are.

Undoubtedly an orderly, or united, political party system is very important in the right of government or that it will help democracy proceed smoothly. But this means that the parties that are formed must have people as their members. And how many people support the policies of a party is determined by the results of the election in the party system. That is, MPs must stand for election in the name of a political party and not be elected with various policies and then establish a political party later. Concerning such parties, I feel that this is a matter for just some politicians or MPs. The people are not involved at all. No matter how perfect or good the policies of these parties are, these cannot be considered to be political parties in the sense of a political party in a democratic system.

Group 1 claims that during the general election of 1979 the constitution did not compel candidates to belong to a political party since there was a temporary executive article and no political parties law had been enacted and that therefore, therefore, no harm in revising the constitution to compel MPs who were elected with various policies to belong to a political party of their choice. I do not feel that this is a reason that will help promote a correct political party system of government.

Group 2 because in actuality, even if the constitution did not compel candidates in the 1979 election to belong to a political party, at the same time there was a law prohibiting candidates from running for election in the name of a non-political party. And as for the results of that election, most of the MPs who were elected belonged to a political party. Stated simply, even though there was no political parties law then, the people, who have the right to vote, accepted them in the name of those parties. In my view, this has more validity than a law because, at present, while some political parties have

and permitting to register in accord with the law, they do not have even one in the House of Representatives.

As for the political parties that were formed even though there was no political parties law and that fielded candidates in the party's name in 1979, it turned out that large numbers of party members of several parties, such as the Social Action Party, the Thai Nation Party, the Democrat Party, the Thai People's Party, the Social Agrarian Party and the Suri Tham Party, were elected.

I feel that the people elected candidates who belonged to political parties which had openly announced that if they were elected they would carry out their actions in accord with the party policies announced to the people shows that the people accept the political party system and are ready to exercise their right to vote within the political party system. For this reason, I feel that it is essential that parliament preserve the intentions of the people that were expressed in that general election and not allow the MPs who were openly elected in the name of the various political parties to switch parties or change a new party as they wish without first considering the wishes of the people who elected them to parliament. This method has already seriously damaged Thailand's political party system.

Allowing MPs to belong to a party cannot be compared with compelling candidates to belong to a political party because the purpose of compelling candidates to belong to a party is to give the people a chance to elect candidates in the name of parties whose policies are in accord with their needs. This is just in the way is really to promote elections within the political party system, but I cannot agree if the MPs are compelled to belong to a party and they to switch the party according to their own wishes without considering the agreement that they made with the people or without knowing whether the people, who have the right to vote, approve or not. The exceptions to this are the 870 who were elected as independents in the last general election. This is not good for them.

Concerning the fact that the subcommittee said that a period of 90 days was sufficient for the MPs to make preparations and decide which political party to join, I feel that the matter was considered only from the standpoint of the convenience or interests of the MPs. Instead, it should have considered the rights, or interests, of the people, the ones with the right to vote, giving them greater importance to the political parties system of government.

In particular, these factors will make it very easy to "buy" members. Because in present, some new political parties that were established after the general election have only one or two members who were really elected in the name of the party, but each claims that tens of MPs belong to the party. The fact that there are many such MPs who ran and were elected in the name of other political parties, I feel that allowing parties to be formed and then allowing them to entice MPs who were elected in the name of other political parties to join the party without attaching any importance to the pledge made to the people during the election is very dangerous. I feel that this will destroy rather than promote the political party system.

In reality, there is only 1 year left. The term of the present House of Representatives is coming to an end. Since all sides agree that the constitution should be revised so that government is a perfect democracy, I do not feel that it is necessary to compel MPs to join a political party within 90 days after the promulgation of the constitution. In just a few more months there will be a new general election in accord with the articles of the constitution. The MPs will have to belong to a political party since the articles of the constitution compel political parties that field candidates to field a number totalling more than half the total number of MPs to be elected. It has also been stipulated that if an MP resigns [from the party] or if a party passes a resolution forcing a member to resign from the party, that person must also resign from the House of Representatives.

For these reasons, in my view, if we really want to promote a party system of government in accord with democratic methods, since the revised constitution has been promulgated, besides compelling MPs to join a political party within 90 days, parliament should be dissolved in order to hold a new general election in accord with the method stipulated in the revised constitution. This should be done within 90 days in order to give the people an opportunity to elect MPs within the party system and clearly show which party's policies they want to support or place their trust in for use in governing the country. This is what should be done instead of allowing the MPs to conspire and choose a party or sell themselves without the people playing any part at all.

I have expressed these opinions because I believe that the government's intention in revising the constitution has been to promote democracy and a correct political party system. But if the government wants to revise the constitution in order to create a conflict between the Senate and the House of Representatives and use this as an excuse to use force to solve the various problems in the country, that is another matter.

11943

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THAILAND

NORTHEASTERNERS FLEE HOMES TO SERFDOM

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Mar 82 p 4

[Article by "Si Khao": "Hualamphong, the Abyss of Thai Children"]

[Text] Every morning at 0600 hours, many people are happily asleep at home. Many others have to get up in order to hurry to get to work on time. But is anyone aware of the fact that the Ubon-Bangkok train is bringing destitute people to Bangkok, the capital, so that they can sell the work left in their bodies? Among these people are young people too.

Why should they stay there when their fields provide no hope? They own their own fields but the fields are dry. They can plant only one crop of rice during the rainy season. Their hope for irrigation water is gone. What is the use of having fields if there is no water?

In the dry season, the land in the northeast cracks. The roads are dusty and the weather is sweltering. But people still have hope as long as they have strength in their arms and legs. You have to go 7 meters down below the surface of the ground before you can bring up ~~less~~ a meter of water. Tired? Its no problem for northerners. This is our life.

As for the economic crops that the district officers have recommended planting, prices are too low. Tomatoes bring only 1 baht per kilogram while matches also cost 1 baht per pack.

White radishes are 3 baht per kilogram. But if the weight exceeds 20 kilograms, there is a weight fee of 40 baht. And how many kilograms must be shipped to cover the cost of salt and seed. We do not have to mention labor costs. There is almost no difference between working and not working.

All roads lead to the railroad stations. In the northeast, all the railroad lines lead to Hualamphong (in Bangkok) where these people can sell their labor with just their lives left. All have gone, with only the old left to tend the fields in order to preserve the dream.

There is no disappointment. They really need us. The price of two children, 8-years old, is 2,800 baht per year. A service charge of 25 percent is deducted

with the remaining amount paid in one lump sum. Is this fair? Girls 15 years old fetch 1,000 baht. At the end of the year, the same amount is paid again. You are so kind, merchants. But what are you going to do with our daughters?

The 12 employment offices across the street from the Hualamphong station purchase 111 healthy and attractive children. No one except people from the northeast still sell them anything. Wait a minute. For us, the owner of a first-class factory has a good job paying 900 baht a month. The first month, 200 baht is deducted for the employment office for its services. This is not expensive, is it?

Who created this market in order to receive northerners like us? Who is responsible for fixing the annual prices for children? And who gave merchants permission to open businesses to purchase the labor of children as young as 11 years old? Northerners would like to thank these people very much for giving us this last hope.

11943
CSO: 4207/86

THAILAND

ECONOMIC PLIGHT OF NORTHERN, NORTHEASTERN FARMERS REPORTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Mar 82 p 11

[Article: "Northeasterners In the Lower Northeast Found to Live In Absolute Poverty; They grow Rice But Must Still Purchase Some"]

[Text] A survey has found that among the poor in the lower northeast are families that are living in absolute poverty and that must purchase rice even though they grow rice themselves. They try to find a way to solve their problems by temporarily moving to the cities and to Bangkok to find work. The people with the lowest incomes in the country are those in the upper north. Their wages average only 15-30 baht per day.

The journal SETTHAKIT LAE SANGKHOM, V 18, No 6, of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board has published a report on village-level poverty in various regions.

In the upper north, the provinces surveyed included Chiang Mai, Lamphun, Lampang, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Phayao, Tak, Prae and Nan. It was found that the people had very limited amounts of land to work, the average being 7.7 rai per family. In addition, most of the land is mountainous. Thus, only the farmers in the plains can work the fields and sell rice. But their incomes average only 4,500 baht a year. Their yields do not satisfy consumption needs.

The upper northeast includes Kalasin, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Phanom, Maha Sarakham, Loei, Sakon Nakhon, Nong Khai and Udorn Thani provinces. The reason that there is poverty here is that the farmers must rely on the rains, the soil is salty and the soil has sand in it and cannot retain the water for very long. However, a very high percentage [of the families], 83.8 percent, own their own land.

The families living in absolute poverty include 53.4 percent of the families that grow rice. This is followed by those who grow catch crops, 30.6 percent. Others include those who hire themselves out and those who grow upland field crops.

The six provinces in the lower northeast [included in the survey] were Ubon Ratchathani, Sisaket, Yasothon, Roi Et, Chaiyaphum and Nakhon Ratchasima. There is more poverty here than in the upper northeast. [The figures are:] People in poverty who own their own land, 65.6 percent; those who rent land,

percent; and families who hire themselves out, 16 percent. Besides this, 6.2 percent of all families who engage in paddy farming must purchase rice to eat. They thus try to find a way out of their plight by temporarily moving to the large cities and to Bangkok to find work at the end of the farming season.

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THAILAND

COMMISSION TO BE FORMED ON OIL, GAS SALES

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 27 Mar 82 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Thailand Is Fortunate On the 200th Anniversary: Thailand has Begun to Engage In Gas and Oil Market Activities"]

[Excerpts] Chatchai is preparing to form a special-affairs commission to discuss the trading of crude oil. The Thai Shell Company, which has drilled for oil, has discovered oil in Lan Krabu Subdistrict. It has confirmed that prices will be lower than world-market prices. The Petroleum Authority of Thailand will purchase the entire amount.

Yesterday morning, the 26th, at the Ministry of Industry, Major General Chatchai Chunhawan, the minister of industry, issued a statement concerning the situation regarding the discovery of natural gas and crude oil in Thailand. He said that Thailand has been very fortunate both last year and this year. There is no reason to talk about a lack of natural gas since we have now brought the gas on line. As for crude oil, he is confident that there are large quantities in Lan Krabu Subdistrict, Kamphaengphet Province. The government will make this oil available for use as quickly as possible. At the latest, it will be ready for use around 1 January 1983. At present, the Ministry of Industry is sending officials out to make surveys concerning transportation routes.

The minister of industry stated confidently that, next year, Thailand will definitely not have any problems concerning fuel oil. This is considered to be the good fortune of the 200th Rattanakosin anniversary. Next week, a commission will be formed in order to hold discussions and reach an agreement on crude oil prices with the companies that have been granted the concession. They will discuss what the price should be. However, prices will definitely be lower than world-market prices since transportation costs will not have to be added in. As for purchases, the oil will be purchased at the wells or at the refineries. To date, no decision concerning where the oil will be purchased has been reached since the figures on transportation are still being studied. Transportation is a very difficult matter. Five thousand barrels (667.8 tons) a day must be shipped without any break.

"However, they are thinking about building a refinery there if the surveys show that one or two places have oil. Chaitaphum, Kamphaengphet and Khon Kaen are all at the same elevation," said Major General Chatchai.

When asked what benefits the people would gain from the present discovery of gas and oil, Major General Chatchai said that, at present, some gas is being used to generate electricity and the cost of electricity has begun to decline. At the beginning of 1983, oil from Lan Krabu will be used in conjunction with oil from the Thai Oil and Bang Chak refineries, 10 percent from each refinery. The result will be that Thailand will import 20 percent less crude oil. As for the crude oil at Lan Krabu, the Petroleum Authority of Thailand will purchase all of it.

A reporter asked: At present, oil prices on world markets have fallen and purchase prices have been cut. Since oil prices have dropped like this, will Thailand be able to purchase oil at lower prices? The minister of industry stated that the oil surplus has resulted from the war between Iraq and Iran. They have had to cut prices in order to obtain money with which to purchase weapons. In addition, Europe and the United States have been conserving oil by finding alternate sources of energy to replace large quantities of oil. This has forced many refineries to cut back or cease production.

"Thailand has signed contracts and must continue to do so because it is afraid that there will be an oil shortage in the future. As for fair oil prices, we don't dare "touch" them. For example, the Summit Oil Company experienced this once. However, whether oil is cheap or expensive does not depend on Saudi Arabia. Thailand has signed long-term contracts. Prices have not been stipulated. These sales are on a government to government basis. It also depends on the type of oil that we purchase. At present, the government has solved the oil problem. There is no oil shortage," said Major General Chatchai.

Dr Praphat Chakkaphak, the director-general of the Department of Mineral Resources, stated at the same place that the Union Oil Company has been producing natural gas from the Erawan site and selling it to the Petroleum Authority. Between 16 August 1981 and 29 February 1982, it produced 17,138 million cubic feet of natural gas valued at 1,006 million baht and 408,483 barrels of liquid natural gas valued at 331 million baht. The Department of Mineral Resources has collected fees totalling 165 million baht for the treasury.

At present, the Union Oil Company is producing natural gas at the rate of 125 million cubic feet per day. Liquid natural gas is being produced at the rate of 5,000 barrels a day. It is expected that the rate of production of gas will increase to 200 million cubic feet per day by the end of 1982. If the company can produce the full amount as stipulated in the plans, the government will collect fees totalling at least 650 million baht per year.

In response to the question of whether the Petroleum Authority of Thailand will invest in the five projects, Flying Officer Suli stated that this agreement calls for purchases to be made at the end of the pipeline. There are two

points. Extending the pipeline between the wells is the duty of the company. The company must also invest in equipment used to refine oil. As for the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, it may have to extend the pipeline from the reception point to the new pipeline of the Petroleum Authority. This is a distance of 12 kilometers. As for the pipelines that the company will extend from one point to another, one is the northern Plathong project. The company has not stipulated other points.

The reporter asked what measures will be taken against the company that has been granted the concession if it cannot put the gas on line in accord with the contract. The minister attached to the Office of the Prime Minister stated that the present price bargaining committee attaches great importance to this. The contract stipulates that they can be fined if the gas is of poor quality, if the full amount is not sent and if the pressure is not correct. In short, the present contract is better than the previous one, said Flying Officer Suli.

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DOUBTS EXPRESSED ON SOURCE OF SURAT THANI BOMBING

bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Mar 82 p 5

Article: "Opposition to Lieutenant General Han By the Communist Terrorists and 'Influential Groups'"

Text | Even though Major General Wichit Bunyawat, the chief of the Civil Affairs Department, received permission from General Prayut Charumni, the commander in chief of the army, and Mrs Wanida Chitman, the deputy government spokesman, to state frankly that the bombing of the Surat Thani provincial civil administration building on Friday, 19 March, was the work of communist terrorists from Camp 508, there are still doubts about this affair.

First, it is not believed that the communist terrorists would do something like this since it is felt that the communist terrorists are not strong enough to have done this. Second, it is felt that the communist terrorists, who are carrying out things in order to achieve important political results, would not risk carrying out an act of sabotage that might result in innocent people being harmed since this would damage the communist terrorists politically.

Third, it is thought that this act of sabotage was more likely the work of an "influential group" that wants to create a political situation that will undercut the position of Lieutenant General Han Linanon, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area, and even the position of the government of General Prem Tinsulanon. The important target is to force Lieutenant General Han out of the Fourth Army Area.

Just 1 day after the bombing took place, Lieutenant General Han said in an interview that this bombing of the headquarters building was carried out jointly by the communist terrorists and local influential people in order to drive him out.

"They want to cause turmoil in order to have me relieved of my position because of my 'tai rom yen' policy."

Actually, such sabotage against the headquarters building was carried out before in July 1981. Mr Samphan Thongsamak, an MP from Nakhon Sithammarat Province who is a member of the Democrat Party, stated, as a person who is

expert need in such matters, that this was not the work of communist terrorists. But he did not say who was responsible. As for the opposition to Lieutenant General Han Linanon, this bombing at Surat Thani was not the first time; there was a bombing in November 1981 just 1 month after he became the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area. Volunteer Defense Corp members in Muang District, Nakhon Sithammarat Province, demonstrated by turning in their cards because their right to carry weapons had been curtailed.

A military news source stated that the people behind the demonstrations against Lieutenant General Han were the influential people in Nakhon Sithammarat. Besides having relations with local politicians, these influential people in Nakhon Sithammarat once acted as middlemen in getting former communists of provincial committee rank such as Mr Chit Chongchit to surrender to General Prem Tinsulanon.

It can be seen that such opposition to Lieutenant General Han Linanon by influential people is not limited to Nakhon Sithammarat alone. Lieutenant General Han later said that there is a "five tigers group" that has mining and timber interests that is cooperating with the communist terrorists in Surat Thani. Thus, Lieutenant General Han and the fourth Army Area must fight not only the communists in the mountains but also the "influential groups" that have financial and political power. In Surat Thani alone, the "five tigers group" has close relations with politicians in the Democrat and Social Action parties.

No matter what direction the "tai rom yen" policy takes, if the result is the quick transfer of Lieutenant General Han Linanon, it will mean that Lieutenant General Han's war will have to continue to be carried on, even though there is a temporary political setback.

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BRIGADIER RANK TO BE REVIVED AS ECONOMIC PALLIATIVE

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Mar 82 p 6

Article: "Brigadier Rank to Be Revived; the Number of Generals Is increasing Faster Than Monetary Inflation"]

[Text] News concerning the revival of the army rank of brigadier general began to circulate in February when General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister and minister of defense, presented this matter to the Defense Council for discussion. However, no conclusion was reached at the conference. There was both opposition to and support for this proposal. Thus, the conference established a committee to consider this. Lieutenant Colonel Prawat Kamonman is responsible for determining the good and bad points of this and presenting the findings to the Defense Council for a decision.

The rank of brigadier general was once used in the army during the time the army was smaller than it is today, but it was later abolished. The last person to hold the rank of brigadier general was Major General Chatchai Chunhawan, the minister of industry.

Looking back at least 15 years to the period when the rank of brigadier general was still in use, the salaries of the military officials were tied to their rank. If an officer was not promoted, his salary did not increase. When the world economic situation and the domestic economic situation changed, the cost of living rose continually. There were few general officer positions but more and more younger officers came up the ranks. The Ministry of Defense looked for a way out by abolishing the rank of brigadier and establishing the rank of special colonel instead so that the lower ranking officers could receive a salary that was in line with the cost of living.

As for the reason for reviving the rank of brigadier, a high-ranking army officer stated that the Royal Thai Army presently has many different units and many units must be commanded by generals. For example, the positions of deputy department chief, deputy division commander, deputy commander of an army area and deputy chief of staff of the army, for example. And several groups have mentioned the matter of prestige. If a special colonel is given such a command position, he would lack the necessary prestige.

Besides this, this same high-ranking officer compared military ranks with the ranks of civilian officials. The military is at a disadvantage and there is a disparity in the matter of personal prestige. Officers with the rank of special colonel are equal in rank to the director of a civilian division (Grade 7). The director of a civilian division can wear a sash as a mark of honor. But for military officials, the regulations clearly state that only those who are general officers have the right to wear the sash, even though division directors receive a lower salary than do special colonels.

This is what officers feel hurt about.

However, the other half who are opposed to this proposal say that they are afraid that the number of generals in the army will rise faster than the inflation of the ruht. The Royal Thai Army is composed of only four armies and so there should not be more than 30 general officers. But there are presently more than 100 general officers because the army has many administrative sectors. This has resulted in some generals having jobs that are not in accord with their rank.

"If the rank of brigadier general is revived, the rank of special colonel will be abolished at a time when there are fewer brigadier positions than there are officers with the rank of special colonel. Thus, those special colonels who are not promoted to brigadier general will have to be discharged. This would certainly have a psychological effect on those officers," stated the high-ranking military news source.

This same news source summarized the various problems concerning the matter of whether there should be a brigadier rank or not. Because the army's administrative system is not good enough to tie rank and salary to each other, the way to solve the problem is to separate rank from salary. Salary levels should be raised in accord with ability and the type of work performed, just as is done in private business. Military ranks can be based on seniority and suitability. At present, the Ministry of Defense has formed a work committee to discuss this matter. Whatever the results, the work committee is working quickly in order to complete things in time for the council's 1982 annual conference.

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REVIEW: ANTI-SRUB INSURGENCY RELATIONSHIPS NOTED IN KANCHANABURI

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Mar 82 p 8

[Article: "The Illegal Tax Point At Chedi Sam Ong:: Be Careful So That the Problem Does Not Develop Into a Major Issue:]

[Text] "The situation is impossible! You get hit each time you take things in or out." Thai merchants who try to make a living by selling goods in the Thai-Burmese border area near the Chedi Sam Ong checkpoint in Sang Khala District, Kanchanaburi Province, have complained bitterly to reporters about having to pay the so-called "tap fee," or illegal tax, when they take consumer goods to sell them to the Mons and Karens who have established influential forces along the Burmese border. Some of the goods are sent to various areas in Burma.

The distribution and sale of goods in this area was started by local merchants, who were villagers in the border area who had contact with the minority groups. Most of the tribesmen living in this area were Mons who belonged to the group of Mr. Suai Chin and [Mr] Nonra. This involved several thousand families from the million or so Mons who were scattered about in various areas in Burma. They had had contact with each other for tens of years. Later on, the trade expanded to the point where goods were sent from Bangkok and transported to the Kanchanaburi City border area.

Concerning the goods that were sold in the area of influence of the Mons, permission was given to open up a market with the forces of the Free Mons collecting a tax. The border merchants who continually engaged in this trade willingly agreed to this.

"They have collected a tax over there for a long time because they feel that that is their area of influence. The Burmese government cannot send people there or if they do there is fighting. These people live on the income they earn by collecting taxes from the merchants. This is what they use to support their forces," said another cloth merchant who has long made a living by selling cloth in the Mon area. He also told us that, at present, people have begun to "earn a living with this same group" on the Thai side.

"At the beginning of this year, some merchants and customs officials got involved, and they are sharing the profits with the illegal tax point that was recently set up," said another merchant who had just had to pay the "tap fee" at the Thong Lan Song Karia tax point just before reaching the Chedi Sam Ong point in the Phu Thale District. She was in a bad mood because another part of her income had been deducted.

The establishment of a new tax point in the Kanchanaburi border area has resulted in the merchants having additional unavoidable expenses, whether willingly or unwillingly. But when they think about becoming wealthy, many of these people hold to the principle that "it is better to eat dog filth than to get involved in legal battles." This is because some of the goods that they send into the Mon area of influence in Burma are smuggled goods.

Concerning the collection of these fees, village headmen in that area are the ones who arranged this. Each 10-wheeled truck that passed originally had to pay 1,500 baht but this has been increased to 1,800 baht. Originally, Thais, Burmese and Mons who passed here had to pay 30 baht each, and the fee for cattle and buffalo was 100 baht each. But this has increased to 125 baht per person and 200 baht for each head of livestock.

"At least four 10-wheeled trucks and 60 people pass here each day and at least 100 head of livestock pass through each month. You can see that they are making large sums of money. And who does this money go to since this tax point was set up by relying on those with influence in the area," said an administrative official who is responsible for things in this area sadly because of his inability to do anything about this. It is well known that [some of] the profits generated from this "fee" are also sent to important people in the province. And at present, thanhn phran irregulars have begun to move into the area too. The complaints of the border merchants will grow even louder. These business activities that involve such great profits will continue for a long time.

"At present, one company that was set up with the support of an important person in Bangkok in order to do business is monopolizing the border trade here, just as the Siam Friendship Company has monopolized the textile trade in Mae Sot in Tak Province by relying on the influence of Bo Mia. But here, some are relying on the influence of the Mons," said a high-ranking official of Kanchanaburi Province. He also proposed that:

The sectors responsible for security should play a role in this because if this is ignored, it will turn into a long-term problem and the profits will increase greatly just as in the case of the textile monopoly in Mae Sot, in which some well-known Thai generals have become involved.

LOW-RANKING CIVIL SERVANTS FACE SEVERE PRICE SQUEEZE

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 18 Mar 82 pp 4, 5

[Free Thoughts, Cool Breezes and Sunshine column by Nui Bangkhunthien: "The Hearts of Those With Low Salaries"]

[Text] At present, there is reason to question the Ministry of Finance's stipulating that taxpayers will be allowed to have an annual per capital income of 30,000 baht [before having to pay taxes].

Thirty-thousand baht a year means a monthly average of 2,500 baht. This is not enough to live on in the city since personal expenses here, including housing, transportation, food, medical expenses, clothing and other expenses, exceed this.

The Ministry of Finance may claim that this has been stipulated for use throughout the country. In the rural areas, people may be able to live comfortably on 2,500 baht per month.

But it must not be forgotten that those who must pay large sums in taxes to the government are the people in the city.

If the state wants money, it should increase the personal income base to 40,000-50,000 baht a year so that taxpayers do not become too poor and are not squeezed too hard.

Employees in the Ministry of defense have asked me to forward requests to Mr Sommai Huntrakun and Dr Phaichit Uathawikun. These can be summarized as follows:

Low-ranking employees in the Ministry of Defense were randomly sampled. The results were:

Families of Level 10, account 3, employees, who receive a monthly salary of 1,950 baht, originally received a monthly cost of living allowance of 270 baht. But when account 3 was revised, this was reduced to 200 baht. Thus, the monthly family income is 2,150 baht.

Ministry of Defense employees must use this sum of money to cover expenses totaling 18 items:

1. Four tang [1 tang equals 20 liters] of rice at 120 baht per tang for a total of 480 baht. 2. Other food totalling 40 baht per day, or 1,200 baht [per month]. 3. One bag of charcoal for 90 baht. 4. One box of laundry soap for 47 baht. 5. Two bars of soap at 7.50 baht per bar or 15 baht total. 6. One tube of toothpaste for 28 baht. 7. One jar of shoe polish for 7 baht. 8. Electricity, 94 baht. 9. Water, 25 baht. 10. Property rent at 35 baht per square wa, 70 baht. 11. One jar of pomade, 16 baht. 12. Haircut, 17 baht. 13. Clothing for entire family, 100 baht. 14. Social aid expenses such as ordination ceremonies, weddings, funerals, housewarmings, "khathin" ceremonies and various requests for help, 100 baht. 15. School food allowance for children, 10 baht per day, or a total of 200 baht for 20 days. 16. Radio batteries to be able to listen to the news and other programs, 7.50 baht. 17. Money to help the section arrange New Year's ceremonies and library fee, 15 baht a month. 18. The total is 2,501 baht. If this is deducted from the income, there is a [monthly] deficit of 351 baht.

The employees of the Ministry of Defense have posed the following question:

After 1 month's work, they are in debt 351 baht. This adds up to 4,219 baht in 1 year, 42,198 baht in 10 years and 84,396 baht if they work 20 years. Can they live like this?

These figures are very detailed. No one can live in such a situation.

However, people must struggle in accord with their situation. No one wants to die of starvation or have a life of poverty.

Thus, concerning these families of Ministry of Defense employees that were sampled and that are composed of the head of the family, his wife, one child and his mother, one or two of the others in the family must be earning an income in order to supplement this income.

The problem of these low-ranking employees is not that they are receiving a low salary. Rather, importance must be attached to the welfare system.

This must be done by establishing cooperatives that can provide loans and that can provide goods at cheaper prices.

If the welfare services in the units are strong, the low-ranking employees will be all right.

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CSO: 4207/85

BRIEFS

IPDR, BURMA IN CELEBRATION--A grand Songkhran Day boat race will be staged in the Mekong River where Thailand, Laos and Burma converge in the Golden Triangle. Mr Kriang Kittisaenphu, the chairman of the Public Relations Committee for Songkhran Festivities and the 200th Anniversary Rattanakosin Celebrations of Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai province, stated that in order to revive the traditions and customs of Chiang Saen, this year the district will hold Songkhran festivities between 12-18 April. Mr Kriang stated that, this year, things will be particularly lively. There will be singing while the boats are paddled up the Mekong River in accord with the old custom of Thailand, Laos and Burma. And on 16-17 April, there will be boat races between these countries. The races will start at the Golden Triangle and end in front of the Chiang Saen District Administrative Office. The [main race] will be between 40-paddle boats but in addition there will also be mixed men and women 20 and 6-paddle boat races. At present, Laos and Burma have responded by saying that they will definitely participate. The public relations chairman said that in addition to the boat races, Songkhran Day and Rattanakosin festivities will be held at the field in front of the district office and at the field of the Wiang Kao School. Besides the various amusements, there will be a rocket contest and a show by Civil-Police-Military Unit 31. And there will of course be a contest for the title of Chiang Saen Songkhran queen. [Text] [Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 30 Mar 82 p 2] 11943

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